Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least and 5 the most, how would you rate the trustworthiness of the CNMI's election process?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

BUSINESS

Utility crews fix the equipment needed to get the lights back on.

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ASIA

Chinese patrol boats harry the Japanese Coast Guard many times a week.

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LIFE & STYLE

With three more "Star Wars" movies planned, who will direct them?

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Kilili leads after 5 precincts

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is likely to get another two-year term in office after thoroughly drubbing his lone opponent in this year's mid-term elections, Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan of the Republican Party, in the first five precincts counted, based on the partial and unofficial result released by the Commonwealth Election Commission.

Sablan, who is running for his third term as the CNMI's non-voting delegate to Congress, has held the seat since its creation in 2008. That's when he won in a nine-way race by garnering 2,474 votes, or 23 percent of the total votes cast.

In 2010, he retained the post after receiving 4,896 votes in a four-way race.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), left, casts his vote at Garapan Elementary School at past 9:30am yesterday, while his challenger Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan, right, of the Republican Party, waves to passing motorists on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon.

This year is the first time the delegate and the mid-term polls were conducted simultaneously.

From the very start, Sablan had a very strong showing over Demapan with a 2,400-vote lead just from the first five precincts counted early this morning.

The commission first counted the ballots from election district 3B, which covers Garapan, with registered voters of 2,476. Sablan bested Demapan in this district, getting 911 votes against Demapan's 264 votes—giving the former a 647-vote margin.

Sablan's winning streak continued when ballots from precinct 3A were counted next, giving him an additional lead of 195 votes after Sablan received 358 votes against Demapan's 163. This precinct covers Oleai with 900 registered voters. From just the first two precincts counted, Sablan already had a wide lead of 842 votes against his opponent.

Precinct IB, which covers Dandan and San Vicente areas, gave Sablan his widest margin so far at 861 votes. Sablan received a total of 1,023 votes from these areas against Demapan's meager 162 votes.

Sablan posted a 343-vote lead against Demapan when ballots from precinct 1A were counted, with the incumbent re-

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Alleged election fraud, challenges, hopes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

What was supposed to take less than an hour turned into a half-day ordeal for Dandan resident Kimberly Nicole Castro Reyes, after finding out that somebody had already signed and voted under her name in Precinct 1. This and other election concerns and challenges marked yesterday's generally peaceful midterm election that saw the highest position—the delegate seat—being contested by incumbent Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and Republican challenger Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan.

RELATED NEWS

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The CNMI was one of the territories where America's election began yesterday because the Commonwealth is a day ahead of U.S. states.

Reyes, an employee at the office of Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), filed a formal complaint with the Commonwealth Election Commission and hopes that no-

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'Wiser, well-prepared voters this election'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Observers, poll workers, and candidates themselves are one in saying that the various polling places in the CNMI accommodated yesterday what they described as a wiser and well-prepared group of voters who appeared at the precinct's door ready with their choices and decisions.

Just two hours after the 7am polling site opening yesterday, there were already 245 voters who trooped to the Dandan Elementary School to make known their choices. Election District 1B-1 posted 118 voters as of 9am, while

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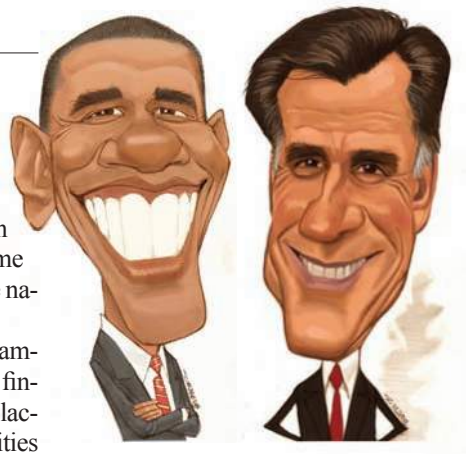
SUSPENSE TO THE END

Obama, Romney yield to voters

By NANCY BENAC
ASSOCIATED PRESS



WASHINGTON (AP)—Two fierce competitors who've given their all, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney now yield center stage to voters for an Election Day choice that will frame the contours of government and the nation for years to come.

After a grinding presidential campaign that packed suspense to the finish, Americans head into polling places in sleepy hollows, bustling cities and superstorm-ravaged beach towns deeply divided. All sides are awaiting, in particular, a verdict from the nine battleground states whose votes will determine which man can piece together the 270 electoral votes needed for victory.

Obama has more options for getting there. So Romney decided to make a late dash to Cleveland and Pittsburgh on Tuesday while running mate Paul Ryan threw in stops in Cleveland and Richmond, Va. Obama opted to make a dozen radio and satellite TV interviews from his hometown of Chicago to keep his closing arguments fresh in voters' minds.

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Local

KILILI

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ceiving 408 votes against Demapan's 54 votes.

For the Senate seat on Saipan, independent candidate Ray Yumul has a big lead over his three opponents. Yumul received a total of 1,691 votes from the first five precincts counted early this morning against Republican Party bet Luis Crisostimo with 980 votes, independent candidate Illuminada Bermudes who has 658 votes thus far, and Covenant Party contender Ana Teregeyo with 428 votes.

Yumul's initial votes of 1,691 votes were from the following areas: precinct 3B, 555 votes; precinct 3A, 165; precinct IC, 244; precinct IB, 506; and precinct 1A, 221 votes.

As of press time, the counting for the remaining precincts were still being conducted by the election commission at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Winners in this year's mid-term polls are expected to be known today.

'Delayed process, again'

The supposed target start of the tabulation and counting was delayed for a few hours due to ballots from Tinian and Rota coming in late at 10:30pm and 11:15pm, respectively.

Besides this, two board members from Rota and Tinian needed to be on Saipan to complete the tabulation committee.

Present at the multi-purpose center on Tuesday evening were five members of the board led by chair Frances Sablan, Jesus Sablan, Lailani Manglona, Juan Santos, and Trinidad Rabauliman.

According to commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero, the board cannot establish the tabulation committee with only five members present because the committee has to have one representation each from Rota and Tinian.

"If we are going to start the tabulation, one member has to stay at the processing. That's why we needed to wait for the two commissioners who are on their way now," he told *Saipan Tribune* as of 10pm. Guerrero was alluding to Tinian member Donald Hofschneider and Rota member Josepha Barcinas. The nine-member election commission board has two vacancies at present.

The two members came in past 10pm along with their island's ballot boxes, which were both already counted on each island.

Because of the delay, the commission's initial target to finish the process by 12am was unsuccessful, Guerrero said.

The official ballot counting started at 10:45pm, following receipt of ballots from Tinian. Ballots from Rota arrived 11:15pm. The commission first counted the ballots from precinct 3, which were the only ballots processed as of 12am.

WISER

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IB-2 station garnered 127 voters on the same hour yesterday.

Poll supervisor Darrah Tagabuel described most voters as "excited," "seem very interested," and "ready" to cast their ballots. She predicted that this mid-term poll will see a good turnout based on the flow of voters. Dandan Elementary School served as the precinct sites for IB-1 and IB-2 voters, which recorded a combined 460 voters as of 11 am yesterday. This precinct covers residents of San Vicente with total registered voters of 2,556.

A voter from San Vicente, Reo Arriola, refused to share his "candidates" yesterday but left *Saipan Tribune* with a message that this election will create "an important shift" for the CNMI and its people. "It's the difference between staying the same and change. Voters are really looking for candidates who share the same vision," said Arriola, who admitted that he reviewed the sample ballots posted on the Commonwealth Election Commission website before going to the polling place yesterday morning. As a wise voter, Arriola admitted that he does not have to vote for a full slate but for candidates whom he believes can and will deliver for the people.

At the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, which serves as polling site for Oleai voters, polling supervisor Alicia Leon Guerrero also shared the smooth flow of the election from the start. Like other precincts, she described voters as both "ready" and "willing" to speak through their votes.

Oleai, which has 900 registered voters this year, a total of 169 have already cast their votes as of 10am yesterday. The figure excludes the absentee and early voters, which *Saipan Tribune* learned was at already approximately 20 percent of voters. "It's very smooth and based on records, we're expecting a good turnout from this precinct," she said.

Seen lining up to cast his vote yesterday morning was House representative candidate Jose Pua Saures, who voted with his wife. When asked if he is confident of winning in this election, Saures said: "This is everybody's ballgame…and I will leave it to the Lord's hand. That's all I can say [for now]." Saures is among the 16 candidates for the House in District 3.

At Hopwood Junior High School, poll supervisor Norberto Mendiola is also expecting a higher voter turnout this year. As of 1pm yesterday, his precinct recorded a total of 274 voters from Precinct 1A, or the San Antonio area. Like other polling stations, Mendiola admitted that though there were a few concerns noted in the morning, all have been taken cared of by poll workers in coordination with the election agency. Registered voters this year in San Antonio is 845.

Concerns, not irregularities

Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero said that as of 2pm yesterday, the agency received some concerns that they are currently looking at. However, Guerrero pointed out that these concerns cannot be classified as "election irregularities" at this time until a further investigation is conducted.

He refused to disclose specifics of these concerns but assured that action is being taken to check these matters.

Guerrero, as early as 9am yesterday, was seen meeting with Public Auditor Michael Pai and OPA manager Ross Zapanta at his office in preparation for the election. Also seen at the commission were personnel of the Attorney General's Office, including acting attorney general Viola Alepuyo.

Like previous elections, Guerrero described yesterday's polls as smooth, despite some minor glitches. "Like any other election, we're encountering some glitches but there's nothing that is unexpected," he said yesterday afternoon, adding that among these glitches was the routine concern about the 300-foot space requirement for candidates and their supporters.

Commission employees were seen attending to calls to ensure proper monitoring of the election on three islands. In between breaks, *Saipan Tribune* saw some individuals trying to confirm their polling areas, or locate missing names on the list.

"But overall, we have initially assessed a peaceful and quiet election today despite noting some minor glitches that we managed to address," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune.*

ALLEGED

From Page 1

body else went through the same ordeal.

"At first, I thought it was just a mistake. But the poll worker said she saw a BMV [Bureau of Motor Vehicles] license with the name Kimberly Nicole Reyes but with no Castro, my middle name and she had the same birthday," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune.*

After checking and re-checking the voters' list, Reyes said she noticed that the signature made by the voter who voted under her name has the initials "C.R." and not "K.R."

Right before press time, Reyes said she received a call from the Election Commission saying that the Office of the Attorney General investigated the matter and initial findings were that it was an error on the part of the poll worker for crossing out a different name.

"Now I'm thinking it's either the poll worker lied about the BMV ID to cover up her mistake or the poll worker really saw the BMV ID and CEC covered it up. Either way, I would wait for a formal written investigation report," Reyes said.

Reyes was given a provisional ballot placed in an envelope and signed an affidavit.

"Now my vote is not confidential anymore. Whoever counts the vote would see who I voted for. And I also hope they really do count my vote," Reyes added.

Strict enforcement

In some precincts, police officers strictly enforced election laws and rules such as in Kagman during the early hours of voting.

At 8:30am, police officers asked one campaign team to move farther away from private property and from the polling booth. Campaign activities are supposed to be at least 300 feet away from polling areas.

But in other precincts, police officers were not as strict, said one independent observer from the group Rising Tide, Rene Reyes.

"There was a man at about 25 to 30 feet away from the polling place at the Joeten-Kiyu Library. Although he's in his car, he comes out every time there's a voter and tells them to vote for his candidate. He was approached by a police officer, but the man went on with what he's doing. Eventually, it was the police officer who left and just stayed inside the library," he said in an interview.

Glen Hunter, also from Rising Tide, said they had over 30 volunteers who helped observe the conduct of the elections and they will be compiling a report about their observations for submission to the Election Commission.

He said in Koblerville, their volunteer observers were asked by police officers to "move back, at least 300 feet away" from the polling place.

This, despite receiving permission from election commission executive director Robert Guerrero on Monday that Rising Tide volunteers will be allowed within the 300-foot boundary, Hunter said.

When he arrived at the scene, Hunter asked the police officer as to who gave the order to disallow their volunteers to be within the 300-foot limit, and Hunter said the police officer cited assistant attorney general Cinta Kaipat.

"According to the CEC director, the Office of the Attorney General is not supposed to be giving orders, because they will act only as observers," Hunter said. He added that Guerrero later told him that the OAG reread the law and said they cannot be within 300 feet from a polling place.

He said there were other irregularities observed, including a woman in her 50s, going in and out of a polling place with "papers" in her hand.

"Every time she comes out, the paper is no longer with her. Then she comes in again with the paper, and out without it. We called in CEC and OPA [Office of the Public Auditor] to check," he said.

Hunter, a strong advocate for a clean and transparent government, said their observers also saw a vehicle with a sign, "We support Fitial," and whose passenger carried an ice chest to the Ada gym polling place "and left it there, in the middle of the election. We don't know what's inside, that's a concern, so we're reporting it too."

Long, short line

Kagman Community Center was already teeming with voters so that within an hour of the 7am opening, there were already 146 voters that had cast their votes as of 8am.

Republican delegate candidate Demapan herself had to wait in line for several minutes to cast her vote at the Kagman Community Center, especially in the line for those with last names starting with A to K.

Demapan came back from Tinian at past 8am yesterday after Monday night's GOP rally there. From the airport, she visited campaign tents from morning to afternoon.

"I really feel good today. I guess it's just because… just seeing the people coming out and voting, and that's very important for me. It's one of those values that we should continue," she said in an interview in front of Tanapag Elementary School where she met up with the governor and their supporters past 1pm.

The governor cast his vote past 7am at Garapan Elementary School. As president of the Republican Party, Fitial said he is optimistic that the party candidates will win but reiterated that he will respect the outcome of the elections.

The governor said he voted "no" to both the elected attorney general and pension obligation bond legislative initiatives.

In some polling places, the voters came in trickles.

At Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School in San Roque, for example, only 151 of the estimated 570 registered voters had cast their votes as of 12pm.

But Rep. Sylvester Iguel (R-Saipan) said they expect voters to come in late afternoon or before closing of the polls at 7pm.

"I want to remain optimistic," he said of his candidacy and voter turnout.

Moreover, at GTC Elementary School, poll workers did not post a copy of a voter tally sheet until the media pointed it out to them at around 11:38am.

At Tanapag Elementary School, 195 voted as of 12pm.

OBAMA

From Page 1

Both sides cast the Election Day choice as one with far-reaching repercussions for a nation still recovering from the biggest economic downturn since the Great Depression and at odds over how big a role government should play in solving the country's problems.

"It's a choice between two different visions for America," Obama declared in Madison, Wis., asking voters to let him complete work on the economic turnaround that began in his first term. "It's a choice between returning to the top-down policies that crashed our economy, or a future that's built on providing opportunity to everybody and growing a strong middle class."

Romney argued that Obama had his chance and blew it.

"The president thinks more government is the answer," he said in Sanford, Fla. "No, Mr. President, more jobs, that's the answer for America."

With both sides keeping up the onslaught of political ads in battleground states right into Election Day, on one thing, at least, there was broad agreement: "I am ready for it to be over," said nurse Jennifer Walker in Columbus, Ohio.

It wasn't just the presidency at stake Tuesday: Every House seat, a third of the Senate and 11 governorships were on the line, along with state ballot proposals on topics ranging from gay marriage and casino gambling to repealing the death penalty and legalizing marijuana. Democrats were defending their majority in the Senate, and Republicans doing likewise in the House, raising the prospect of continued partisan wrangling in the years ahead no matter who might be president.

If past elections are any guide, a small but significant percentage of voters won't decide which presidential candidate they're voting for until Tuesday. Four percent of voters reported making up their minds on Election Day in 2008, and the figure was 5 percent four years earlier, according to exit polls.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Sights and sounds from yesterday's election

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

After weeks and months of weighing their criteria for choosing a candidate, voters in the Northern Marianas turned in their ballots yesterday, filling in several elected positions and deciding on their next set of local leaders. Here are some vignettes from yesterday's election:

■ ■ ■

Areas around polling places, which opened promptly at 7am amid cloudy skies that persisted for the most part of Election Day, were filled with candidates and their supporters for the customary roadside waving for a final push. Additionally, a couple of mobile banners aboard pickup trucks were seen driving around major thoroughfares that were free of traffic.

■ ■ ■

Candidates and supporters young and old wore their respective colors depending on their political party affiliation, transforming the streets into a sea of blue, red, green, and everything in between. But the celebrated colors, which remained low-key throughout the process, were the black shirts of the Commonwealth Election Commission staff, led by executive director Robert Guerrero, and the dark blue uniforms of Department of Public Safety officers.

■ ■ ■

Many voters, poll workers, and political party observers noted that polling began slow and was expected to pick up as the 7pm closing time drew near. After lunch time, many of the roadside waving groups began to dissolve.

■ ■ ■

While some supporters were mindful of the 300-foot zone policy in setting up tents for their campgrounds, there were still some who were negligent as they obstructed the view of motorists going in and out of the polling sites in hopes of campaigning for their candidates of choice.

Rising Tide, a newly established group that set up an election observation mission in "an effort to improve the credibility and integrity of future elections in the CNMI," were among those who heeded this rule.

A member of Rising Tide said the group has about eight observers each for five polling places. Some of the members noted concerns that they intend to share with the Election Commission. Others were harassed, with one of them asked to remove a political sticker from her car.

"We hope this will not be our last endeavor," said a female Rising Tide member, referring to the 2012 mid-term elections.

■ ■ ■

For this year's elections, most of the attention has been on the two-way race for the CNMI delegate to U.S. Congress, House, and Senate seats. However, voters also weighed in on three legislative initiatives in the ballot. Of the three, only Initiative 17-12 had backers who visibly set up camp throughout voting precincts and each site was manned by Northern Marianas College staff and management as well as their advocates.

NMC's Hedwig Hofschneider, who voted with a few family members at Hopwood Jr. High School, expressed hope that those who will be elected "are the right people who can help us, regardless of party and other affiliation, and who can bring positive changes to the community."

■ ■ ■

Registered voters who are mobile but did not exercise their constitutional right yesterday or did not take advantage of early voting should feel embarrassed. Eighty-eight-year-old Alfonso Reyes, a person with disability, was accompanied by his daughter-in-law to Dandan Elementary School at noon to cast his vote. The daughter-in-law, a government employee, said Reyes cannot walk that far so he stayed in the pickup truck where polling supervisors Frankie Angel and Darah Benavente Tagabuel assisted Reyes by bringing him the voter's ballot and the logbook to sign. Angel said the Election Commission has reminded them to be sensitive to persons with disabilities, and Reyes was the first that they accommodated as of noon yesterday.

■ ■ ■

Yesterday was Precinct 3 Independent candidate Anthony Benavente's wife Annie and son Tony Jr.'s birthdays. The former Parks & Recreation director, who is running for an elected position for the first time, said they will have a celebration at home where they will wait for the election results for the crowded race. "I'm happy about how things are turning out," said Benavente, adding that a victory would be a great gift for his wife's birthday.

■ ■ ■

All these come as Election Day unfolds across the rest of America, with voters going to the polls to choose between incumbent Barack Obama and his opponent, Republican Mitt Romney, for the country's next president.

Residents of two tiny villages in northern New Hampshire headed to the polls at midnight, casting the first Election Day votes in the nation.

After 43 seconds of voting, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney each had 5 votes in Dixville Notch.

In Hart's Location, Obama had won with 23 votes, Romney received 9 and Libertarian Gary Johnson received 1 vote. Thirty-three votes were cast in 5 minutes, 42 seconds.

The towns have been enjoying their first-vote status since 1948 and it's a matter of pride to get everyone to the polls.

Hart's Location Selectman Mark Dindorf says you could call it a friendly competition to see who gets votes tallied first, although he says Hart's Location is a town and Dixville Notch is a precinct. *(AP)*

■ ■ ■

CHICAGO (AP)—President Barack Obama has turned over his re-election prospects to the voters.

Obama closed down his campaign late Monday with a nostalgia-filled rally in Iowa, the state that jumpstarted his first presidential bid. He'll spend Election Day in his hometown of Chicago, making his last appeals to voters in satellite interviews rather than a final flurry of campaign rallies.

"It all comes down to you," Obama told supporters in Des Moines on Monday. "It's out of my hands now. It's in yours."

The president heads into Election Day tied with Republican challenger Mitt Romney in national polls. But in some of the key battleground states, including Ohio, Iowa and Wisconsin, that will decide the White House race, Obama appears to have a slight edge.

RAIN OR SHINE HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Despite the rain, this father-and-daughter tandem in Tanapag is undeterred from campaigning for their candidates.

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Fitial opposes settlement conference in Johnson lawsuit; calls Faris biased

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Saying it would be premature and unfruitful, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the CNMI government are opposed to a settlement conference at this time in Betty Johnson's lawsuit.

Assistant attorney general Reena Patel also notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI of Fitial's and the CNMI government's objection to Hawaii bankruptcy chief judge Robert Faris presiding over settlement matters.

Faris appears to be biased against the CNMI government, said Patel in Fitial's and the CNMI government's response to the proposed settlement conference.

Patel cited Faris' statement in the Fund's bankruptcy petition in which he described the CNMI government as "an immovable object" and stating that "the dismissal of this case will leave the Fund and its beneficiaries at the mercy of the Commonwealth government."

If the court does order a settlement conference, Fitial and the CNMI government prefer that former District Court chief judge Alex Munson preside over the matter, the government lawyer said.

Patel said they are asking the court to deny the Fund's request for settlement conference at this time because the CNMI government is working in good faith to make payments to the Fund.

Patel also cited that there is an outstanding motion challenging the validity of Johnson's claims, and that a settlement conference could not afford a complete compromise of the case.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood recently asked Johnson and the defendants in her lawsuit—the Fund, Fitial, the CNMI government and others—if they are amenable to a settlement conference.

The judge issued the order after the Fund board of trustees, through trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano, filed a motion for pretrial settlement conference.

The judge disclosed that Faris has communicated with her his willingness to serve as settlement judge in the case.

Fund counsels Braddock J. Huesman and Daniel J. Berman last week asked the court to issue an order requiring the parties in Johnson's lawsuit and their attorneys to attend a settlement conference.

Johnson has notified the court of her willingness to join the conference.

Johnson, through counsels Robert Hatch, Bruce L. Jorgensen, and Stephen C. Woodruff, told the court she agrees with the Fund that the court should order the parties in the lawsuit to participate in a settlement conference before Faris.

CASTING HIS BALLOT MONETH G. DEPOSA

Poll workers accommodate Jose Pua Saures as he casts his votes yesterday morning at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Saures is among the 16 candidates vying for House seats in Precinct 3.

Investor's lawsuit vs Quichocho, landowner dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has dismissed an investor's new lawsuit against attorney Ramon K. Quichocho and landowner Joaquin Q. Atalig after the parties reached a settlement agreement.

Sin Ho Nam's lawsuit was dismissed with prejudice, which means the case cannot be reopened.

Senior Judge Alex R. Munson said the court, however, will retain jurisdiction to enforce the settlement agreement and mutual release of claims entered into by the parties on Nov. 2.

Each of the parties will bear their own attorneys' fees and costs.

Munson issued the order on Friday.

Colin Thompson, as counsel for Nam, and Michael Dotts, counsel for Quichocho and Atalig, jointly asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit.

Nam filed the new lawsuit against Quichocho and Atalig in August for allegedly deceiving him to settle his previous lawsuit by promising to pay him $228,000 within a 160-day period.

According to Nam, Quichocho and Atalig have paid only $16,800 to date.

Nam sued Quichocho and Atalig for breach of contract and fraudulent misstatement.

Nam alleged that under the terms of their settlement agreement executed on Sept. 12, 2011, defendants should have paid the entire settlement amount of $228,000 by April 2, 2012.

Nam asked the court to hold the defendants jointly liable to pay him damages of over $150,000. He also demanded interest, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Nam previously sued Quichocho and Atalig for breaching a land lease agreement when they terminated a 55-year lease less than two years later, despite having already paid them $218,000.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett found Quichocho and Atalig liable to Nam for breach of contract.

Police: Mid-term elections generally smooth, peaceful

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite some minor issues, yesterday's mid-term elections in the Commonwealth went smoothly and were generally peaceful, according to Capt. Lawrence Camacho.

As of 5pm, there were no arrests on Saipan and police gave the same report about the situations on Tinian and Rota.

Camacho said the ballots from the Northern Islands arrived on Saipan at noon aboard a chartered boat, with one police officer serving as an escort. The ballots were then transported to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

"There were several minor issues, but we took care of it," said Camacho, who was designated by the Department of Public Safety as overall commander of the election operations for the sixth consecutive election in the Commonwealth.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Jeric Maglonzo, 19, votes for the first time in his life at Garapan Elementary School yesterday morning.

These minor issues include some candidates' supporters or certain camps having confrontations with others about campaigning within 300 feet of polling places.

"We tried to make them understand about election laws. We already measured the areas. We have to display to them to make them understand," he said.

Camacho said there were no reports of major traffic congestion in the vicinity of polling places.

It rained on the northern and eastern parts of Saipan so motorists were driving cautiously.

DPS deployed over 30 uniformed police officers on the island. One officer was assigned at each small polling precinct and two officers each were at big polling places.

Camacho said he has never activated DPS' elite Tactical Response Enforcement Team in the six elections that he has handled as overall commander.

Camacho said their duties do not only involve maintaining the security of the community but also to preserve the integrity of the ballot boxes.

"We start over here and end up here," the police captain said, referring to escorting of ballot boxes from and to the Pedro P. Multi-Purpose Center.

Camacho said the DPS' election operations are under the authority of Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert Guerrero.

"If we go out there and there is question about the 300 feet issue, we explain to them the election law, among other election laws," he said.

If complainants still don't understand, he said the officers refer them to the Election Commission.

The 300 feet issue has always been the most common concern during elections, Camacho said.

"Each polling place has a marker already. We anticipate it already," he added.

Manta Ray Band gears up for free holiday concert

The musical talents of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band will again be on display in a special concert this holiday season.

The Manta Ray Band will share the stage with two other musical groups during the Dec. 11 concert, according to the band's musical director, Will DeWitt.

He said the Manta Ray Band, which came home victorious from this year's London Olympics, will play beautiful music with Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band and the USAF Band (Alaska Brass) out of Elmendorf, Alaska.

The three groups will offer a free special holiday concert at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater. The concert will be from 5pm to 8pm.

According to DeWitt the USAF Band will be on island from the Dec. 9 through 12 and will also be doing some mentoring and musical coaching at both SSHS and Marianas High School during their stay.

"I believe they are sending six musicians for this event, the very same airmen who performed here a year ago. While they are here, they would also like to go on a guided tour of our historic military sites...perhaps on Sunday afternoon [Dec. 9]," said DeWitt.

He is seeking support for the group's visit and performance on island such as promotional materials, logistics for the concert, and ground transportation for the visiting airmen. DeWitt is also inviting people to join the visitors for a tour of Saipan's prominent historical sites.

The Manta Ray Band is also scheduled to perform this Sunday for the Veteran's Day celebration at the American Memorial Park. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

FSA urges farmers and ranchers to vote in county committee elections

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The 2012 Farm Service Agency county committee elections began on Monday, Nov. 5, 2012, with the mailing of ballots to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices is Dec. 3, 2012.

"The role and input of our county committee members is more vital than ever," said FSA Administrator Juan M. Garcia. "New county committee members provide input and make important decisions on the local administration of disaster and conservation programs. With better participation in recent years, we also have seen promising increases in the number of women and minority candidates."

Eligible voters who do not receive ballots in the coming week can obtain ballots from their local USDA Service Center. Dec. 3, 2012, is the last day for voters to submit ballots in person to local USDA Service Centers. Ballots returned by mail must also be postmarked no later than Dec. 3. Newly elected committee members and their alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2013.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. Agricultural producers in each county submitted candidate nominations during the nomination period, which ended Aug. 1.

While FSA county committees do not approve or deny farm operating loans, they make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are about 7,700 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to 11 members that are elected by eligible producers.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2012 fact sheet and brochures, can be found on the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center. ***(FSA)***

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ABC MASTER SPRAY POWDER 1 KG. $13.25
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2/F CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan • Tels.: (670) 235-2440; 235-8747; 235-6397; 235-3740

No CNMI phone number for Guam PH consulate

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana will not be able to keep a 670 number that Filipinos in the CNMI can call without incurring long distance charges.

Guam Consul Edgar Tomas "Gary" Q. Auxilian said in a recent interview that it will not be possible for the consulate to keep a local number in the Northern Marianas.

Auxilian noted, however, that the Filipino community in the Commonwealth can get in touch with the Guam Consulate for consular services and assistance through other modes of communication.

Starting Nov. 1, the new official email address of the Guam Consulate is pcgagana@gmail.com.

The consulate can also be contacted by calling (671) 646-4620 or 30 at the office, (671) 649-1868 for fax, and (671) 488-4630 for hotline.

Physical address is Suite 601-602, ITC Building, 590 Marine Corps Drive in Tamuning, while the mailing address is P.O. Box 9880, Tamuning 96931, Guam.

For requirements and procedures on consular services, visit www.philippinesguam.org.

Auxilian added that they are awaiting advice about the recommendation of former Saipan Consul General Medardo G. Macaraig for the appointment of honorary consuls.

Macaraig, who left for his next assignment in Kuala Lumpur two weeks before the Saipan consulate closure, nominated one Filipino each on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to serve in that capacity.

Auxilian

The nominees will have to be sanctioned by the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila and the U.S. State Department.

Over 650 to receive NMI Scholarship awards this semester

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

More than 650 college students are expected to obtain financial assistance this fall 2012 semester, based on the records of the CNMI Scholarship Office.

Jacqueline Che, the agency's interim chief, disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that a total of 654 scholarship applications have been approved for this semester, both covering off-island and on-island recipients.

Che recently resigned as scholarship chief but continues to assist in the transition period until a replacement is appointed by the Executive Branch.

As of Oct. 7, Che disclosed that the program has 654 scholars, the bulk of which—totaling 415 scholars—are from Northern Marianas College, while 239 are receiving assistance for their college studies abroad.

At the Northern Marianas College, Che said the 415 scholars are composed of 243 ongoing students this semester and 172 new students.

Meantime, of the 239 off-island scholars, 216 are ongoing students while 23 are new students.

Che disclosed that as of Oct. 7, the scholarship office is reviewing 23 appeals from off-island applicants to the program.

The NMI Scholarship Office functions under the Office of the Governor. Its primary mission is to provide financial assistance to eligible CNMI students pursuing postsecondary education. This mission is also designed to enhance the government's support of the students, resulting in the prosperity and economic growth of the people in the community and their families.

This fiscal year, the program was allocated a $2 million budget for its Honors and EAP scholarship programs. EAP stands for education assistance program. Unlike the previous fiscal years, a big portion of its $1 million budget is directly appropriated to the Northern Marianas College for its scholars under the program.

Recipients of the NMI Scholarship Office awards suffered a reduction in their financial assistance starting fall semester 2011 after the board enforced a 42-percent cut on the educational assistance program, or EAP award. From the previous $1,200 financial awards under EAP, the amount was slashed to $700 per off-island student per semester starting fall 2011. The policy change was due to budget reallocation and the high number of applications received for the awards.

Spring 2013 fee waivers for Cash for College attendees

Individuals who participate in the Northern Marianas College's upcoming "Cash for College" workshop will qualify to have their NMC spring 2013 admission application fee and placement test fees waived—a savings of up to $75.

The free workshop will be held this Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, in Building A at the NMC As Terlaje campus. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by any time between 9am and 3pm.

The aim of this workshop is to assist students and their parents in maximizing scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education. The Cash for College workshop is open to both new and ongoing students.

Participants will also be provided personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the College Access Challenge Grant Scholarship, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program, the CNMI Scholarship, the TEACH Grant and more.

NMC Student Services representatives from counseling, financial aid, and admissions will also be on hand to assist workshop participants and answer questions.

It is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid passport, birth certificate, or green card), at least three official transcripts, signed 2011 1040 tax form (2011 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes), proof of CNMI residency for 2011 and 2012, and voter certification that shows that you voted in the last election (SHEFA requirement).

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at 234-5498 Ext. 1526 or email daisym@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(04) Registered Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to five years' hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- Certified nephrology Nurse (CNN) – Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

(01) Licensed Practical Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX-LPN and current CNMI LPN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resusciation.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

(04) Building Maintenance & Repair
- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks.
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction with solester inverter experience.
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions.
- Maintains and repairs various equipment.
- High school graduate or equivalent.
- Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and other building trades areas.
- Extensive work experience with hemodialysis/maintenance is required.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Must have a valid driver's license.

(01) Water Treatment and Hemodialysis Technician
- The water treatment technician must be able to perform a number of tasks which may at first glance not appear difficult but require a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain the system. the ideal employee will possess:
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems.
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit.
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities.
- Be familiar with the safety and life safety policies.
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II preferred.
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing and hemodialysis techniques.
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with electricity.
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels for heomodialysis.
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing and hemodialysis techniques especially when working with pvc.
- Extensive experience of disposal of hazard waste per protocol.
- In service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Solar panel maintenance/construction with solester inverter experience.
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned.

(02) Commercial Cleaner
- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, polishers, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings.
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required.
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste, and other disposable materials.
- Must handle various cleaning solvents, chemicals, etc.
- Damp dust furniture , light fixtures, window, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily.
- Wet mop floors and bathrooms daily. Damp mop all corridor floors, lobby, and others daily.
- Report any needed repairs immediately.
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc, periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby.
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping services
- Must be able to work flexible hours.
- Must have own transportation.
- Is required to clean employee's house prior to and post occupancy.
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner the Business, Dr's., Accounting, Dietician, and Clinic Manager's Offices.

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan or for more information, please call 234-2902 and ask for Connie Aldan or Judy Arriola.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(01) Registered Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License.
- At least two or five years experience.
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing.
- English Language skills-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

(01) Front Office Manager
- At least over five years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record.
- English Language skills-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- College graduate
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedure and diagnosis
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spread sheet and general accounting skills.

(01) Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician
- At least five years experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology
- Must be over five years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/ Knowledge with Practice Partner software in electronic health records usage.
- Licensed by the medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI

(01) Health Clinic System Manager
- A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience.
- Bachelor's degree, or equivalent.
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintenance of all Company's computer systems to include computer hardware, computer software, computer network and advance server skills.
- Overseas medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software.
- Overseas administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system.
- Building maintenance repair, electronic record and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with medical and Medicaid standards.
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned.

(01) Clinic/Yard Maintenance
- Preferred skills and experience
- Building Construction/Renovation experience
- Experience solar maintenance pv models
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license
- Must be flexible with time schedule

Please submit applications or resume to Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic at Chalan Kiya, Saipan or call Connie or Judy at (670) 234-2901 ext. 124 for more information.

Dear People of the Commonwealth,

I have been honored by the extraordinary privilege
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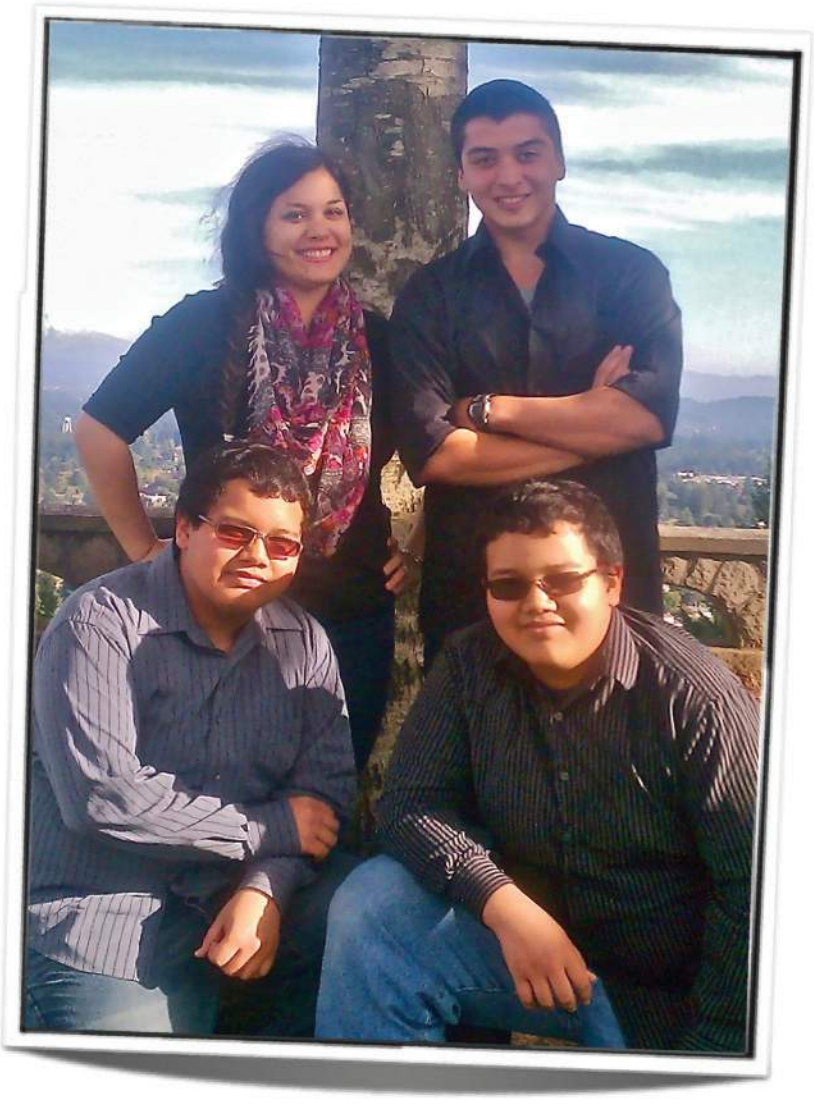
by the outpouring of your support.



Please know that I, together with Andrea,
our children and family,
and the Kilili for Congress committee,
am very grateful for your support.

Please accept our sincerest gratitude
and you have my assurance
that I shall continue to work hard
for all our people and islands.

With gratitude and warm personal regards,
I remain,

Kilili

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Paid for by Kilili for Congress

Faisao: Budget dictates hiring, salary level

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao maintained that the agency's limited budget dictates what positions will be filled and their respective salaries.

Faisao made the statement following his opposing stance with Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz over the hiring of a Tinian Aging Office staff.

The Aging Office is one of the divisions under DCCA.

Faisao said that, while the law requires the agency to provide two employees at the Tinian Aging Office for which Dela Cruz has expenditure and supervisory authority, it does not give the Tinian mayor the authority to choose who to hire and set the employee's salary.

Faisao

Faisao emphasized that the governor, as chief executive of the Commonwealth, has the authority and duty to determine who and how much would be allocated for the salaries of employees.

He said that Dela Cruz was given the opportunity to provide input on what is needed for the Tinian office during legislative budget hearings.

Should Dela Cruz insist on hiring someone whose salary requirements exceed what the agency can provide, then the mayor should pay for the difference in salary using his own funds, Faisao added.

He also blamed the Legislature for its failure to specify the number of employees and the amount to be allocated to Dela Cruz for the Tinian Aging Office, leaving the authority to the governor or his designee, the DCCA secretary, to make the decision.

In an Oct. 29 letter to Dela Cruz, Faisao clarified the agency's hiring policy which follows CNMI personnel regulations on initiating personnel action request, announcement of job openings, certification of availability of funds, employee salary based on budget appropriations, and required duties and skills for the position, among others.

"In an effort to ensure that these policies are followed, all resident directors and mayors shall provide the Secretary of DCCA with the record of all acts taken in order to comply with the foregoing policies in the hiring of an individual under these delegated Executive branch duties," the letter stated.

'Laureta, Munson played pivotal roles in dev't of law in NMI'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Both Alfred Laureta, the first Filipino-American to be appointed to the federal bench, and District Court senior judge Alex R. Munson played pivotal roles in the development of law in the CNMI, according to veteran lawyer William M. Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald said he has the greatest admiration, respect, and affection for former U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judges Laureta and Munson over the course of 30 years of practicing law before them.

"I want to thank you for your diligence in making decisions, the wisdom you brought to those decisions, the integrity and honesty you brought to those decisions," said Fitzgerald in his introductory remark during last week's unveiling of the portraits of Laureta and Munson.

The Covenant, which provided for the establishment of the U.S. District Court for the NMI, went into effect in January 1978 and it was then that the court was established. For the first nine months, the 9th Circuit rotated judges who would stay in the CNMI for a month or so.

Fitzgerald said that Laureta came to the CNMI from Hawaii where he had been a Hawaii state court judge for 10 years.

"He was the first Filipino-American to be appointed to the federal bench," Fitzgerald said.

The lawyer said that Laureta arrived on Saipan in August 1978 and, at the time, the island was going through one of its worst rainy seasons in history.

BILL BEZZANT
Alfred Laureta, the first chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI, unveils his portrait as District Court chief judge Ramona V. Manglona looks on during a ceremony at District Court last week. Also in photo are two of Laureta's three children who accompanied him from Hawaii for the event. The portrait of former District Court chief judge Alex Munson, who succeeded Laureta, was also unveiled.

Fitzgerald said that Laureta's first law clerk, Howard Luke, told him they spent the first two weeks bailing out the judge's house.

At the time, the court was located at the Intercontinental Hotel and the law clerk's office was some 30 yards from the beach and 10 yards from the Intercontinental pool.

"The courtroom was set up at one end of a banquet room, which could be closed off from the rest and then opened when there was a jury trial," he said.

Fitzgerald recalled that the judge's bench was a steel desk that was fastened to a raised wooden platform about a foot off the floor.

"The air-con didn't work very well, so they had two giant fans on either side of the bench working at full speed," the lawyer said.

He said the rumor was that the new judge was really strict and fined people for being late or for not wearing a tie.

At the time, Fitzgerald said, it was not unheard of for a lawyer to appear in court wearing zoris "and certainly nobody ever wore a tie."

The lawyer remembered that on the morning of his first appearance before Laureta, as he pulled into the parking lot of the Intercontinental, he realized he had forgotten his tie. Fitzgerald ended up buying from a rack of novelty a tie for $10 and proceeded to the courtroom.

"The tie was hand-painted on the front and back and, while the front was bad, the back was horrendous," he said.

Fitzgerald thought that if Laureta saw it he would be offended and fine him for that. "So remembering the fans, I made my entire argument with my hand across my stomach ala Napoleon, to prevent the fan from blowing the tie," he said.

The lawyer said the rumors that Laureta was a tough and mean judge turned out to be ridiculous as the judge "was an evenhanded and a kind judge as one could imagine," the lawyer said.

Fitzgerald also mentioned the variety of cases that Laureta handled.

"Judge Laureta retired in 1988 and returned to Hawaii and we are all very happy to see him once again so hale and hearty at the tender age of 89," he said.

As for Munson, Fitzgerald recalled that Munson, a native of California, practiced law there before being appointed to the Trust Territory High Court in 1980. Munson was appointed chief judge of the district court by President Bush in 1988 and re-appointed by President Clinton in 1998.

He said Munson presided over countless Fair Labor Standard Act cases, many "ice" cases, and high-profile public corruption cases.

Fitzgerald said Munson also handled a case in Guam, when the local legislature passed a law banning abortions. "He did what judges are required to do, he followed the law and declared the Guam statute unconstitutional. The decision was affirmed by the 9th Circuit," he said.

The lawyer said despite all the threats, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor, Munson "guided the case to a calm resolution with a minimum of drama, exemplifying the highest standards of judicial conduct," Fitzgerald added.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday to Millie Wabol, who is celebrating her special day today, Nov.7. May you enjoy your special day and God bless. Much love from KaiLani and Franklin.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 7, 2000

Govt still undecided on PCB lawsuit

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday said the CNMI government has yet to decide whether to seek legal action following disclosure that some residents of Tanapag have high levels of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in their body. He said he is more concerned over the safety and health of the people, which both local and federal agencies must address to ensure that the villagers are protected from harmful effects of the contamination. "I don't know whether [legal action] will come later, but what we are concerned of is the health of our people," Mr. Tenorio told reporters in an interview. "That is most important."

House halts action on driver's license bill

Due to serious policy questions, the House of Representatives yesterday deferred action on a bill that will bar police from seizing the license of drivers who have violated traffic rules in the CNMI. The House Committee on Judicial and Government Operations is expected to re-assess HB 12-270 after some members of the lower house questioned provisions of the proposal, particularly the new policy it will set out if it becomes law. Sponsored by Rep. Dino M. Jones, who chairs JGO, the measure seeks to amend existing law to prohibit the seizure of drivers license prior to conviction for a crime or infraction. Such practice raises constitutional concerns, according to a committee report endorsing the legislation.

Nov. 7, 2001

CNMI missing out on federal grants

The next Washington Representative is bracing for a difficult task amid the local economic condition and the challenging situation facing the United States. Washington Representative-elect Pete A. Tenorio admitted that the current economic situation is the most challenging task at hand. He said the Washington Representative Office will be working doubly hard to tap necessary federal appropriations for the Northern Marianas. For several years, the CNMI failed to tap federal grants, which were made available by the US government to its states and territories including the Northern Marianas, Guam, Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.

Teno to BB: Focus on revenues

For the incoming Republican administration, it will be revenue, revenue, revenue. Or to be more precise, revenue generation. That's the word of advice given by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to the Babauta-Benavente tandem on the priorities that the new administration will have to immediately address once they take over the reins of the CNMI government in January. Tenorio said his administration has already submitted to the Legislature the resources that are on hand and the revenue projections for Fiscal Year 2002-amounting to $206 million.

Nov. 7, 2002

Paid exercise time proposed for govt employees

The Department of Public Health will propose a weight-loss competition among government agencies to remedy the rising number of diabetics in the Northern Marianas. Dr. Richard Brostrom, medical director of the DPH-Commonwealth Health Center, yesterday said the public health department is now putting together a proposal on a government-sponsored exercise time and weight-loss competition among agencies to stop the continued rise of obesity and diabetes cases on the islands. "We hope to submit the proposal to the Governor next month for his review. We will check with the administration after that," said Brostrom in an interview following his presentation during the Saipan Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting at the Aqua Resort Club yesterday.

OPA: DOLI-Tinian misused $32K in public funds

The Office of the Public Auditor yesterday disclosed that the Department of Labor and Immigration's Tinian office had misused a total of $32,522 in government money for improper telephone charges in three occasions. Public Auditor Michael Sablan said the audit involved telephone charges and long distance calls made by the DOLI-Tinian from January 1998 to June 2000, in response to a complaint filed with the OPA on March 16,2000. "It was determined that misuse of government funds may have occurred and that a more comprehensive audit should be conducted. An employee was subsequently charged and convicted, resulting in a delay in the issuance of this report," Sablan added.

Pohnpei new Weather Service Office now open

On Oct. 26, the new Weather Service Office in Pohnpei was dedicated. The timing of the ribbon cutting and ceremony was coordinated with the daily 10am weather balloon release.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides weather, water and climate forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property throughout the Micronesian Islands.

U.S. Ambassador Doria Rosen remarked that monitoring the weather is a job that continues 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no break for the staff of the weather station. She also commended Eden Skilling for his long time dedication to the weather service, noting that he has been on the job since 1967.

Vice President Alik L. Alik also spoke. The Vice President thanked the government and people of the United States, through Ambassador Rosen, for the significant project and stated that like other U.S.-funded facilities and infrastructure projects, this new building stands as a testimony of the unique partnership enjoyed between the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia.

After the ceremony, everyone was invited to tour the new building followed by refreshments provided by the management and staff of the Weather Service Station.

In attendance from the national government were the Secretary of the Department of Justice April Skilling, and the Director of Office of Emergency and Environment Management Andrew Yatilman. ***(U.S. Embassy)***

U.S. EMBASSY

From left, Gov. John Ehsa, Vice President Alik Alik, Ambassador Doria Rosen, Jeff Ladouce, CDR Michael. Thornton, and Eden Skilling.

National Red Ribbon Week Contest extended

The National Family Partnership announced that the national contest for its 27th annual Red Ribbon Week has been extended one more week, due to Hurricane Sandy. This means parents and students nationwide have more time to enter the contest (the original entry deadline was Nov. 2). The online voting period has also been extended by a week, and is now rescheduled for Nov. 10 to 24.

To participate, students bring the Red Ribbon Week message home by working alongside parents to decorate their front door, mailbox, fence, etc. with this year's theme "The Best Me Is Drug Free."

Take a photo with the family and their Red Ribbon Week decoration, then upload by Nov. 9 to www.redribbon.org/contest or www.facebook.com/RedRibbonWeek (must be parents or 18+ to upload photos).

The voting begins! Ask family and friends to vote for your entry at www.redribbon.org/vote from Nov. 10 to 24. Ten lucky winners from regions across the U.S. will win. Winners will be announced at events at their winning schools in December. ***(PR)***

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-DPW/ED-016
Submission Date: November 28, 2012 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"Provision of Four (4) Diesel Commercial Wood Chippers for the Department of Public Works, Energy Division"

The complete scope of work for this project will be available on or after October 24, 2012 and may be picked up at the Office of the Division of Energy (EECBG) located at the Springs Development Plaza or requested via email to fourwoodchippers@recovery.gov.mp during regular working hours.

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held on November 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., local time at the Department of Public Works Main Office Conference Room, 2nd Floor, located in Middle Road, Saipan.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m., local time, on November 16, 2012 to fourwoodchippers@recovery.gov.mp or via facsimile to (670) 664-4488.

This is a federally funded project; as such, local preference is not available, because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Anthony A. Camacho
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

/s/ Thelma B. Inos
Director, Energy Division

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP13-OPA-019
Submission Date: November 19, 2012 Time: 2:00 P.M.

"TO CONDUCT FINANCIAL AND/OR PERFORMANCE OF AUDITS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OF THE CNMI"

The single audit guidelines and specifications may be picked up at the Public Auditor's main office at 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan during normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Rosauro D. Zapanta, Analyst Manager, at telephone numbers (670) 322-6481/2 or by facsimile to (670) 322-7812.

Preference is available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. The application must be submitted with the proposal if preference is claimed.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Michael Pai
Public Auditor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

ALLIED CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

IS IN NEED of an ACCOUNTANT

Qualifications:
Must be a graduate of Bachelors of Science – Major in Accounting (Masteral Degree in Business Administration is a plus), with minimum experience of 5 years as a corporate accountant, able to prepare Financial Statement in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principle (GAAP), able to formulate and implement office policies and procedures, preparation and monitoring of company budget, knowledgeable in CNMI and Federal Taxation.

Compensation commensurate with experience.

Please email or send your resume at:
alliedspn@gmail.com or fax at 235-7742
Closing Date : November 16, 2012
(Allied Construction Corporation is an equal opportunity employer)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Prepare, examine, and analyze accounting records, financial statements, and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and in conformity to reporting and general accepted accounting principle (GAAP) acceptable to the United States. Prepare company budget and monitoring budget versus actual expenses.
- Performs General Ledger posting, reconciliation, prepare balance sheet schedule on a monthly basis, such as preparation of Fixed assets lapsing schedule, pre-payments, accruals of expenses. Calculate CNMI and federal government taxes on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis.
- Prepares individual and corporate income tax returns for the Company. Responds to CNMI Revenue and IRS letters and prepares necessary documents needed to correct and comply tax filing.
- Overall in-charge of the accounting and administrative operations of the Company. Report to the management regarding the finances of the Company. Formulate and implement office policies and procedures for the entire operations of the Company, Prepares recommendations to the top management, with regards to meeting company budget, cost cutting measures.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-008

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package and the scope of work may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 13, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)** at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-008, Workers' Compensation & Administration", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than December 4, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions regarding CUC-RFP-13-008 must be submitted in writing no later than **November 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-034

Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Monday, November 19, 2012

ENGINEER

Duties: Under the overall supervision of the Deputy Director for Electric Power Systems or his/her designee, namely the Power Manager (Transmission and Distribution). Designs, executes, coordinates, and oversees assigned pieces of projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepares design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketches. Drafts a variety of engineering reports and correspondence. Assists with data collection, troubleshooting of power distribution and substation equipment faults and determining their root causes. Must be able to work with power distribution staff in the maintenance and operation of the power distribution and substation and electrical equipment. Carry out load flow and protection studies. Lead a group of technicians in the installation, operation and maintenance of power distribution and substation . Provide guidance to plant operations staff involved in the operation and maintenance of power distribution and substation equipment. Performs research for the Power Division (Transmission and Distribution). May perform engineer duties for other divisions of CUC. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Power Division (Transmission & Distribution), SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $37,344.71 to $55,315.50 .00 per year; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering AND at least four years of experience in a power utility (power generation and/or transmission and distribution). Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-035

Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Monday, November 19, 2012

Senior Engineering Technician

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Power Division (Transmission and Distribution) Manager or his/her designee. Uses advanced technical computer applications to support engineering functions of the Division. Compiles As-Built drawings and expertly incorporates the data into existing composite system drawings. Performs field duties to include: collecting and gathering data; determining assembly requirements; preparing data for drawings; clearing underground facilities; providing storm damage assessments; conducting field inventories; conducting testing; conducting severance verifications by locating and verifying boundaries; conducting verifications on materials; and, conducting land title research. Prepares drawings, plans, as-builts and land acquisition documents; performs engineering calculations. Receives requests for drawings and independently creates needed drawings and renderings required by engineers for design and construction contracts. Prepares daily assignments to meet schedules and requests. Prepares and submits a variety of reports and documents to include securing permits. Prepares staking sheets to determine the cost of the required work as stated in the application. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Division (T&D); SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $17,800.46 to $28,191.50 per annum; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Not contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Associate Degree in Construction Management or Engineering Technology, or a related field, and two years of senior engineering technician experience. Knowledge of: Public rights of way; CADD programs; Global Positioning Systems; National Electric Code; Mathematics; Basic engineering concepts. Skill in: Drafting; Preparing engineering drawings using CADD; Using GIS; Preparing charts and graphs; Performing mathematical calculations; Performing basic engineering calculations; Solving problems; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must already have a U.S. or CNMI driver's license. Pre-employment drug testing required.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 12-036

Opening Date: Thursday, November 1, 2012
Closing Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2012

SENIOR ENGINEER

Duties: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Electric Power Systems, or his/her designee - namely the Power Manager (Transmission and Distribution). Performs project management activities to include: preparing reports, memorandums and recommendations; developing scope of work; providing technical reviews; surveying for projects; developing procurement and bid documents, evaluating proposals; monitoring project process; approving payment; and, recommending award of projects. Prepares engineering designs, plans, data collection and specifications. Performs load flow and protection studies and analysis. Troubleshoot and analyze system and equipment faults and determine root causes. Carry out planning, design, construction ,management, operation and maintenance of transmission and distribution system in a saline environment. Research, write, and manage the conditions and requirements for renewable energy PPAs and Interconnection Agreements . Reviews work performed by engineering technicians and engineers. Coordinates and meets with other divisions to coordinate activities and projects. Supervises engineering support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Power Division (Transmission and Distribution) , SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $60,000.00 to $73,195.00 per year; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITION: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not contracted.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and four years of directly related experience in an electrical utility. A Master's Degree in Engineering is preferred. Must be a licensed professional engineer from a U.S. state or territory. An engineer with an active NCEES Record is preferred. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Managing multiple projects; Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Interpreting drawings; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using load flow and related software applications; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a U.S. driver's license.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The Benghazi timeline without the politics

Errant second-guessing by politically motivated news commentators served at least one constructive purpose. More details on the attack in Benghazi, Libya, are known.

Fox News delivered a twisted narrative that was inaccurate no matter how often it was repeated. The irritant eventually flushed out the Central Intelligence Agency, which had been reticent to talk.

A timeline delivered to reporters by a CIA official who spoke anonymously described the intense efforts to assist Americans under attack at the U.S. consulate compound.

Contrary to a Fox News report last Friday, pleas for help were not ignored or put on hold with orders "to stand down."

The new timeline details that effort and the time involved in rallying a local response and summoning help from out of town. The attack on the anniversary of Sept. 11 had the U.S. calling for help from friendly militias and a Libyan military unit. All of it happened with the spontaneity of an evolving emergency operation in unfamiliar territory.

The CIA was responding from a secret location, and the timeline suggests its operatives acted with all due urgency and bravery.

Any event that claims four U.S. lives, especially in a sensitive and hostile diplomatic environment, is open to scrutiny and, in the midst of a presidential race, can be expected to be exploited.

Politics are one thing. Facts are another. The CIA timeline is useful, and about a week late.

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SpaceX success

Amid a news cycle dominated by the presidential campaign, the recent successful end to the first official private cargo mission to the International Space Station went largely unheralded. And that's not such a bad sign.

SpaceX, the California-based rocket builder, launched a Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon capsule from Cape Canaveral on Oct. 7 carrying more than 800 pounds of supplies for the space station. The capsule safely splashed down in the Pacific three weeks later, packed with almost twice as much Earth-bound stuff from the station.

Though the mission wasn't perfect—one of the rocket's engines shut down after launch, and it failed to deliver a private satellite to the proper orbit—it went well enough that NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk were crowing afterward.

The positive results backed up the Obama administration's smart decision to privatize the job of carrying cargo—and in a few more years, astronauts—to low Earth orbit so that NASA can focus its limited resources on deep-space exploration.

SpaceX plans 11 more cargo missions to the station under a $1.6 billion contract with NASA. Those missions are set to launch from Cape Canaveral, a badly needed boost for the Space Coast after last year's end of the shuttle program. Continued success could pave the way for more Florida missions from SpaceX and other private rocketeers.

Critics called privatization in space too risky. Now it's heading toward routine. That's good for the space program, for Florida and for the nation.

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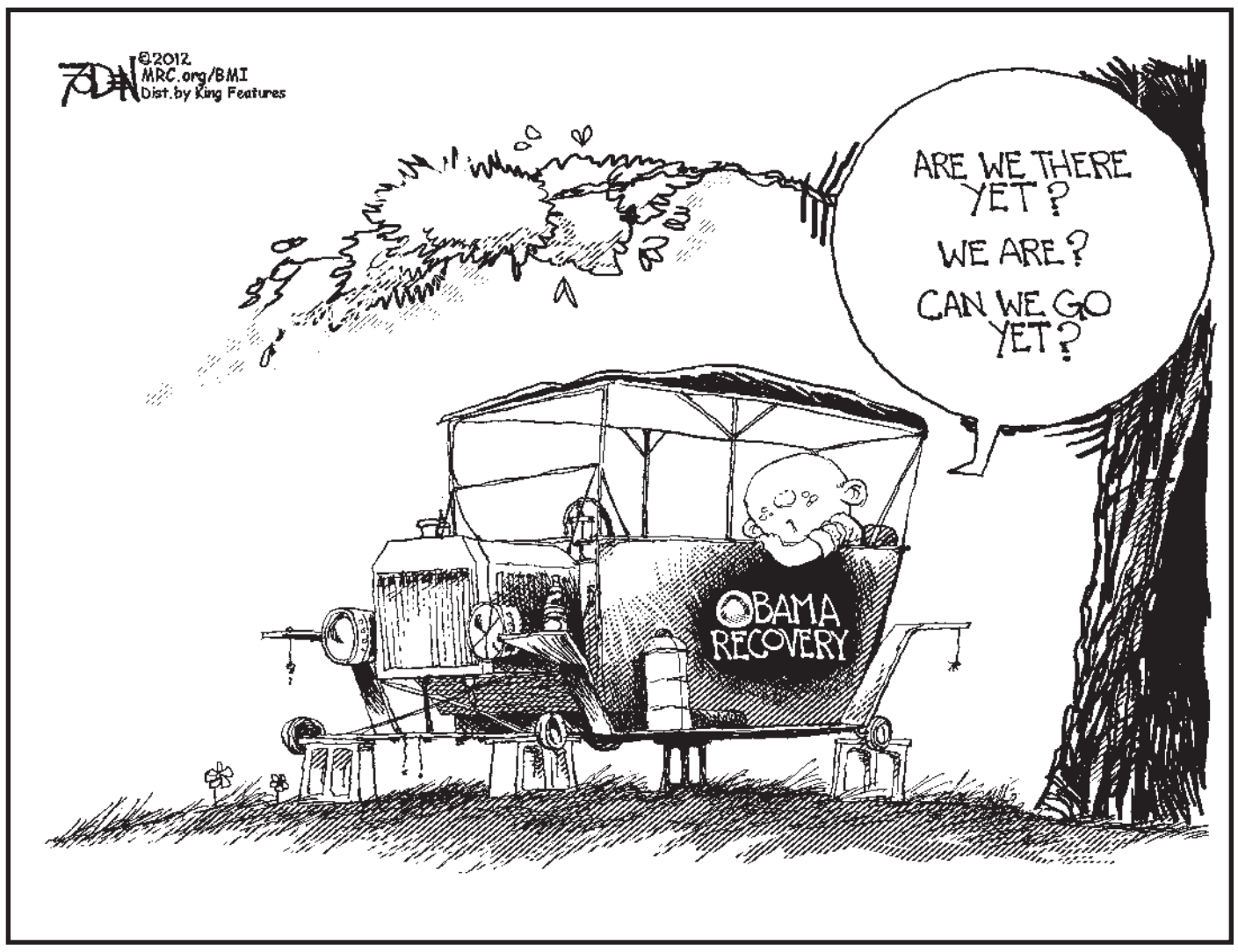


Uncle Sam after Sandy

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

The U.S. presidential election has been overshadowed by the spectacle and debacle along the devastated path of Frankestorm Sandy, and in our reading, the natural melodrama does not help either of the candidates gain more votes. The undecided are still holding their ambivalence heading to the booths. Obama has been acting more presidential, true; and Romney has been more subdued rather than the just being ornery and contrary!

Absentee voters in the CNMI would have already sent their ballots to their respective states by now. We had not tried to influence their choice and obviously, could not do so now. But for the sake of full disclosure, we voted for Obama.

Rebuilding the country after Sandy is an apt metaphor in what faces the United States in Obama's second term. What the presidential debate clearly revealed is that foreign policy is domestic policy, and vice-versa. Romney inadvertently kept returning to this position in the third debate while Obama pontificated on a magisterial podium. The polls gave the third debate to the President on a lopsided score of 2 to 1. Still, Romney stayed at our position, which is, that domestic policies determine our intents outside of the country, and the resources as well as the requirements of foreign soils influence domestic behavior.

The reverse is equally true. As dramatically reported in the late '50s when then Vice President Nixon asked a Brazilian favela dweller what political reform meant to him, the respondent replied: "I want to participate in choosing the next President of the United States because what s/he decides affects my life." The whole world, not surprisingly partisan to Obama, awaits the tally of the ballot.

Meanwhile, citizens are rethinking the function of the federal government and the election process of its officers. The importance of the feds needs to move from being a regulatory body to promoting research and developmental thrusts. The feds can conduct periodic peer review over local governance from the states (we include territories down to the local wards/precincts) but I would let the states conduct the necessary regulatory functions, particularly regarding trade and commerce.

This means a stronger "paying attention" of states on their affairs. The California tandem of Brown/Newsome is painfully holding the reality of a state in deficit spending of $60 billion. Admittedly, the state is a big chunk of the U.S. economy, their debt minuscule compared to the feds' debt now numbering in the trillions, but still, when local executives begin to take responsibility for their own turf and not rely on either stimulus packages or interventions from elsewhere, there is hope for the political process.

The conduct of elections for executive offices requires an overhaul. The Electoral College that actually elects the President is at variance with the popular vote, which is the common perception of how the President of the nation is elected. It is a representational construct designed when the Union was still agricultural, and states wanted to keep institutional prerogative separate from the popular will of the masses.

Gerrymandering of congressional districts along racial lines, meant initially as affirmative action, has now grown monstrously out of control. The U.S. Congress itself, designed when it took a congressman 25 days to ride a horse from California to Washington, D.C., could use more than just earnest tinkering.

We keep returning to the fundamental question that every citizen need to ask one's self: 1) how do I physically support myself; 2) how do I socially participate in the decision-making process that affects my individual as well as communal existence; 3) how do I symbolize my understanding of the significance, or the absence thereof, of my life and that of my society. We call those three basic questions as the economic, political, and cultural poles of the social process. What is true of individuals is just as relevant to all levels of social configuration, from the nuclear family to the nation and the world.

Frankenstorm Sandy and a reportedly looming second storm are actual occurrences subject to quantification. That will be done by established agencies. They are also metaphors to gauging the quality of our consensed and intentional human existence. That's a job for every awake and aware citizen.

Our unpreparedness for Sandy, though long predicted to occur by our scientists, reflects the deep denial we hold regarding the reality of climate change. We are not the only ones. The oil cartel around the world has been denying it the same way the tobacco industry used to junk any correlation between nicotine and lung cancer. Reversing the trend in climate change is no longer an option, and the global temperature, having risen by 0.9 Centigrade in the last 20 years, is expected to hit the catastrophic additional 2.0 C in another 20 years.

We live in a region in China where the burning of coal goes with 4-out-of-7 days of dark overcast skies. This in a region that is consciously trying to be "green" in many of its energy needs. Green is losing.

Obama II has a historic chance to lead a nation in aligning its domestic policies along global needs. We are hopeful.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Growth of Administrative State

While we dilly-dally with provincial issues at home, I've kept my eyes on the larger issues in Washington. It's known as "administrative state," specifically the establishment of more agencies that would rule territories and state governments without "the consent of the governed."

It seems that more and more daily decisions are made less by responsible citizens than by a nanny-state government, especially powerful, unelected, unaccountable Executive Branch agencies in Washington. For instance, there's the Environmental Protection Agency, among the worst federal agencies.

The emergence of the administrative state was primarily encouraged by the U.S. Congress' decision on the emasculation, castration, mutilation, and sterilization of its authority. It allowed for the establishment of agencies granted the authority to write rules and regulations that aren't subject to judicial review or legislative oversight.

"Under Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, EPA seeks not merely to regulate, but to legislate; not merely to protect our health and environment against every conceivable risk, however far-fetched, but to control every facet of our economy, livelihoods and lives," according to Paul Driessen, senior policy adviser for the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow and author of *Eco-imperialism: Green Power, Black Death.*

"Instead of following laws and policies set by our elected representatives, EPA is determined to impose regulatory edicts that reflect President Obama's promises to 'bankrupt' coal and utility companies and 'radically transform' our economy, society and free-enterprise system.

"EPA now is better described as the 'Employment Prevention Agency,' with $100 billion diktats (decree) that are killing countless jobs, making America more dependent on foreign sources of energy and raw materials that we have in abundance right here at home, and endangering our economy, national security, and people's health and welfare.

"Mrs. Jackson's *agenda* seeks to relegate fossil fuels to the dustbin of history and force America to get its energy from intermittent 'renewable' sources, not when they are needed but when they are available. Regulations on 'greenhouse gases' and other emissions are to make non-hydrocarbon energy appear cheaper by comparison, paving the way for crony-corporatist 'alternatives' like wind, solar and ethanol."

Understandably, our non-voting delegate doesn't have the funds to keep tabs on this issue, but it's a matter he can't afford to consistently ignore. Imagine federal rules and regulations that eventually compromise the spirit and letter of the Covenant agreement on self-government and our rights and freedom as citizens. Kilili must buckle down on this issue. Not ready to accede to lordship!

■■■

Medicaid vs health

Would Medicaid help the CNMI become healthier? While the program serves as a safety net for many recipients here, it is not the tool to ascertaining a healthier population. A closer scrutiny of our program expenditure could be very revealing, i.e., number of recipients sent on medical referral, admission for chronic recipients given critical care, medication, etc.

At the risk of repeating myself, health begins with the self and only you can make a difference in how you live: a healthy person or a chronic patient. The latter is bad all around. It's painful and a hardship for the family who must come around to assist. We help because it is part of our culture to help loved ones, especially the chronically ill.

Catastrophic illnesses are even harder to deal with, i.e., heart problems, kidney failure, blindness or amputations as a result of diabetes, among others. It's even much harder for those who contract one of various forms of cancer, i.e., breast, lung, esophageal, oral, uterus, and ovarian, among others. They go through chemotherapy and in some cases, radiation treatment. You may recover but the quality of life is never the same. It's for this reason that it's vital that you buckle down to settling to staying healthy.

■■■

Couch potato culture

Over the years, we've learned the so-called couch potato culture. We've basically become a sedentary community, watching television while munching on sweets, snacks, and sugary drinks. We double it up consuming tons of delicacies or food that have done greater harm than good. Instead of shaking a leg, we slam it down before the tube while stuffing ourselves with more unhealthy stuff.

It is for this reason that cases of Type II diabetes and heart problems have become alarmingly high. Alarming in the sense that we have a lot of problems with obesity among our people, young and old. It's good, though, that PSS has taken the lead to ensure its breakfast and school lunch menus are shifted to healthy food. It also spends time in the classroom teaching kids nutritious food and the importance of exercise.

Admittedly, the long-term illness level has escalated and a lot has to do with culture. For instance, when we purposely reduce our waistline or whole body the old folks think we're sick. So you're encouraged to stuff yourself so you look big "sideways," never mind that you're overweight. As you go past 35, the waistline moves quicker and closer to the sun. By the time you realize it, your blood pressure has equally taken off, sugar level reaches hyperglycemia as you struggle with hypertension. It's a do-or-die situation.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Dire conditions force us to either follow our doctor's recommendation or the next recommendation would be the price and color of your casket as you take temporary residency at the morgue. It need not be this way. Only you can control your palate, including brisk walking at least three times a week. Bring the entire family along so you make it a collective effort. You'd do yourself a whale of good!

■■■

Watched one big woman order breakfast: "Let me have fried bacon, fried rice, fried link sausage, fried eggs, five slices of fried ham, four pieces of pancakes, muffins, and sweet rolls." Asked for her drink, she smiled, announcing, "Diet Coke." Well, it must be gastrointestinal disorder or a lifetime dream to turn into a larger-than-life Humpty Dumpty!

Neither of these guys is inspiring

By PETER GOLDMARK
NEWSDAY

For this voter, it's been a discouraging campaign.

The trouble we're in is big, but the candidates both seem small to me, though in different ways.

Do you recognize these words? "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate. ... The occasion is piled high with difficulty and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew ... and then we shall save our country."

That was Abraham Lincoln in an address to Congress in 1862.

A century and a half later the occasion is again "piled high with difficulty," but no one has been talking to us in that spirit.

From where I sit, Gov. Mitt Romney has been blowing smoke. He presents himself as confident and determined, but his ideas aren't clear or concrete. He acts energized, but he has not energized us with powerful ideas or a compelling vision. On the big issues—the economy, energy and climate policy, growing inequality, terrorism—he gives us empty phrases that don't add up in terms of budgets or common sense. Plus he says he'll undo the progress we've made on health care for those who need it most.

We had a lot of fantasy economics under President George W. Bush, and we don't need more of that. We need to get out of the trouble Bush II's crazy ideas got us into.

President Barack Obama has been consistent, belabored and inoffensive—but to my ear he hasn't given us a real plan to close the deficit and get jobs and investment flowing again, or what he'll do about global warming and the energy policies that are strangling us. He just says he'll do more of what he tried to do during his first four years. Which Romney says is exactly the problem.

And neither of them can explain how they will get anything serious moving if we re-elect a polarized Congress.

On foreign policy the two candidates have not quarreled much—or said much. Romney says he won't cut the defense budget, as he has said he won't cut Medicare or Social Security, but will somehow mysteriously close the deficit. Both promise to be "tough" with China. But they also recognize, to varying degrees, that they must treat China as an uneasy but important partner, not just a threatening rival.

There were three presidential debates. Obama napped through the first, and neither candidate said anything impressive in the second or third. At the town hall debate at Hofstra University, most of the audience sat stony-faced and uninvolved. At a moment of great national peril, neither candidate succeeded in engaging the audience positively or eliciting from them any strong reaction of any kind whatsoever.

My hunch is that great swaths of the American public feel unconnected to either candidate and have little hope that either will pull us together and move us forward out of the dismal economic doldrums in which we find ourselves. It may be hard to summon the enthusiasm to get out and vote—and the impact of Sandy just makes us feel the need for good leadership all the more.

Now I understand this is a campaign, and that candidates have to couch their ideas in terms and values that appeal to voters. But great leaders take that requirement as an opportunity, not a constraint. They rise above the tired checklists of code-words and special interest obsessions to paint a broader vision of what we need to do and why. A great leader shares his sense of the large measures that will be necessary and lays out in broad terms what he or she will ask of us.

The Western world is stumbling economically, weapons of mass destruction are spreading, and we are frying the planet. I'm ready to follow someone who will "think anew and act anew."

I will vote Tuesday. Voting is a sacred trust in a democracy. But the leader I am looking for will not be on the ballot.

Peter Goldmark, a former budget director of New York State, is a member of the State Budget Crisis Task Force. He wrote this for Newsday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kilili haters

To Ms. Carmen DLG Sablan: With regards to your letter about Kilili, you say Kilili doesn't follow through on his promises. Hmmm, then how about you governor? What kind of governor makes the law and breaks the law. That's your governor. The one that you as a voter put there. The one who takes a woman from jail and brings her to his house so he could get a massage. Must be one hell of a massage!

Shame on you for talking about a person that other people respect. Who are you to judge him? And shame on that lady who, when Kilili was waving at the Microl intersection, came down and told him and his wife to go away, even when he had a permit.

You must be one of them Kilili haters. Look at yourself first before looking at others. Kilili is a good man. I have met him personally and see nothing wrong with him. You and your haters see wrong in him. I and many, many others see good in him. Why? Because we see ourselves first in the mirror before we judge others. Maybe you are one of those who is scared of losing your job but remember, if you say yes to impeach him and he fires you, you can always sue him.

We as friends of Kilili will stand by you and fight. Stop the governor's corruption and start a new government.

Brenson John
Koblerville, Saipan

Uneasy

I would like to share with you and your readers my take on the just concluded impeachment hearings. You could tell who are the ins and outs of the administration by the way they voted on the impeachment measure. Each legislator represents the voters in the precinct where he or she was elected, and it is their duty to vote in matters brought before them in the Legislature. How they vote is up to each of them. The voters will determine in today's election whether they voted correctly or not by retaining or eliminating them from the incoming rosters of legislators in January 2013.

The process of gathering testimonies from the various witnesses that appeared before the committee really piqued my interest. All the witnesses seemed uncomfortable before the committee. They all appeared to be in a state of uneasiness when responding to questions posed by committee members. Most of them needed a lawyer to accompany them in order to testify. I wonder why? Lawyers don't work for free. The witness from CUC surpassed the anxiety level of all the other witnesses; he needed two lawyers with him to testify. Maybe the governor was correct in calling him a liar? If he is an untruthful person, we should all be very concerned of him. He holds the top position of an agency that impacts our lives each minute of the day, every day on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Care to share your thoughts?

Pete DLG. Borja
Garapan, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

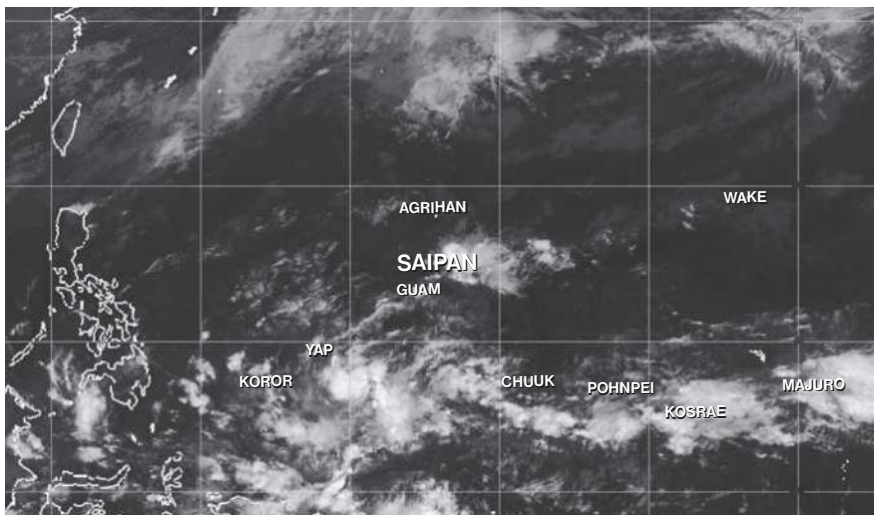
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼76
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲90	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲87	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼51
Beijing	Sunny	▲54	▼30
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Mostly Sunny	▲51	▼41
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲75	▼57
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼51
Miami	Sunny	▲76	▼55
New York	Rain	▲42	▼37
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼52
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼41
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼49
Rome	Sunny	▲61	▼44
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼40
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67	▼53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼40
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼50
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲48	▼40

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low-level convergence ahead of a frontal system southeast of Okinawa at 24N130E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Iwo To island north of a line from 24N136E to 23N141E. A shear line meanders eastward from 18N140E across the CNMI to 14N154E then to Wake Island at 18N166E and ends near 15N173E. Patchy clouds and light showers are present along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary including Wake Island while scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found from 139E to 143E and from 151E to 158E. A surface trough extends northward from 10N135E to 15N137E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring well west of Guam within 100 miles of the trough axis. A near-equatorial trough stretches east-northeastward from 4N130E to a circulation centered east of Koror at 7N137E then continues to the southeast to end near 3N148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near Yap and Koror between 3N and 10N from 130E to 148E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 150 miles of a line from 6N150E to 6N160E to 3N164E and across the Marshall Islands within 200 miles of a line from 1N172E to 6N173E to 7N180 including Majuro.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

7:05 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
2:25 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
8:43 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		12:29 PM
Thursday	12:31 AM	1:11 PM
Friday	1:23 AM	1:53 PM
Saturday	2:17 AM	2:36 PM
Sunday	3:13 AM	3:22 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCT. 27, 2012

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)			
UZ608	3:20am	6:35am	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)			
VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:10pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
OZ607	9:25pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN			
VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other week
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	11:25pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
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2012 Mid-term Elections

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Northern Marianas College faculty and students man a booth near Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School in San Roque to drum up support for a legislative initiative on NMC's mission statement.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Voters wait in line in the hallways of Kagman Community Center around 8:30am yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Assistant attorney general Gil Birnbrich, left, and dozens of others wait for their turn to vote at Garapan Elementary School yesterday morning.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Children and adults campaign for their candidates near the Kagman Community Center where the voting for election district 5 was held. Kagman was among those with the longest line of voters early, with 146 votes cast in just an hour after the 7am opening of the polls yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House Precinct 4 candidate Christopher Leon Guerrero, left, joins supporters and other campaign representatives in a road waving on Capital Hill yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), left, and wife Andrea, along with Sablan's campaign manager Galvin Deleon Guerrero, walk their way to the Garapan Elementary School voting center yesterday morning.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, joins his delegate candidate, Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan, at a campaign stop in Tanapag yesterday afternoon. Fitial is president of the Republican Party.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Two men react as they root for their candidates in Tanapag.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Young supporters sit comfortably as they wave to passing motorists on Capital Hill early yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Young and adult supporters of Republican delegate candidate Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan in high spirits in front of Tanapag Elementary School yesterday afternoon.

Business

Utility workers face tasks monumental and mundane

HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP)—For utility crews racing to restore power to residents of this waterfront city that have been sitting in the dark for a week, the task is both mundane and monumental: Clean a bunch of gunk off electrical equipment with rags and cleaning spray.

That's the way it has been across the Northeast, as crews clean, replace and fix the equipment needed to get the lights back on for millions of customers who lost power when Superstorm Sandy blew through.

In Hoboken, the salty, filthy floodwater of the Hudson River swamped a substation that relays power to 10,000 homes and businesses. It worked its way into switches and in between wires. It washed over the hunks of copper and silver capable of handling 26,000 volts of electricity. It fouled everything below a perfectly straight line of dirt on all the boxes of circuit breakers and transformers on site that marked the crest of the flood.

"It's getting the crud off," said Mike Fox, a Public Service Electric and Gas Co. engineer who was supervising the company's substation restoration. "It's nothing earth shaking, but it's a lot of stuff."

▶ Visiting utility crews from the St. Louis-based Ameren Corp. restring power lines after replacing numerous downed and broken poles along Bull Run Road in Hopewell Township, N.J. on Saturday Nov. 3, 2012 in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

AP

Sixty-seven thousand utility workers in the Northeast are working day and night on tasks they are familiar with: putting up telephone poles, stringing wire and replacing transformers. But Sandy's storm surge added another dimension by attacking the utilities' internal equipment. Switching stations, substations and underground electrical networks were inundated in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Hoboken and elsewhere.

But it's the sheer volume of work that is making the power outages last so long for some. At the peak, 8.5 million homes and businesses were without power. A week after the storm walloped the Northeast, 1.4 million customers remained in the dark, mostly in New York and New Jersey. Getting the power back on for all of them will take at least another week.

Frustration is turning to anger and despair. The air in the region has a winter chill and another storm is approaching. Some without power see neighbors with twinkling chandeliers even as they still use candles.

Fox gets it. He has been taking cold showers and using a flashlight to shave every morning before setting out from his house in Westfield, N.J. to the substations that need repair. On Sunday his neighbors started an email exchange suggesting they complain to PSE&G in hopes of getting service back quicker.

"I had to head them off at the pass, and explain why it can take so long," he said. "Every day people get a little more strained and stressed. I'd be losing patience too if I had time to."

Local workers have plenty of help: Utility crews from as far away as the West Coast started streaming toward the Northeast in their bucket trucks even before the storm hit. But feeding, housing and outfitting thousands of out-of-state workers has its own challenges.

Utilities have agreements with local hotels to house workers, but as the extent of the damage became apparent, and homeowners abandoned their powerless homes for hotel rooms, a housing crunch developed.

A crew from Duke Energy that specializes in underground electricity transmission based in Cincinnati arrived in New York on Wednesday to help Consolidated Edison restore power to lower Manhattan. Getting a hotel in New York was even tougher than advertised.

Greece: More austerity despite strikes, dissent

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's conservative-led coalition detailed a new four-year package of austerity measures late Monday, facing down escalating protests by unions and dissent from its left-wing government partners.

The bill, to be voted in parliament late Wednesday, will impose further wage and benefit cuts on Greeks who are heading into a sixth year of recession and are already struggling with 25 percent unemployment.

Unions had already called a 48-hour general strike starting Tuesday in anticipation of the measures.

Police late Monday cordoned off streets around main government buildings in preparation for potentially violent protests.

The drastic spending cuts and tax hikes demanded by the country's bailout creditors aim to save some (EURO)13.5 billion ($17.3 billion) in 2013-14, but austerity will be extended through 2016.

Other measures include a two-year increase in the retirement age to 67, a new round of tax increases, and making it easier to fire and transfer civil servants.

If lawmakers reject the measures, Greece could lose vital rescue loans that have kept it afloat since May 2010—raising the threat of bankruptcy and a euro exit.

The next loan installment of (EURO)31.5 billion out of a total of (EURO)240 billion is already overdue and without it, conservative Prime Minister Antonis Samaras has said Greece will run out of euros on Nov. 16.

After nearly three years of successive income cuts and tax hikes, Greeks have little stomach for more.

On Monday, doctors launched a three-day strike that will leave state hospitals functioning on emergency staff, while news broadcasting was canceled by a 24-hour journalists' strike.

During a general strike Tuesday and Wednesday, schools, tax offices and public administration will shut down, and there will be no train or ferry services across the country. Flights will be disrupted for three hours Tuesday.

Since forming his government after June elections, Samaras has fought on two fronts: To persuade debt inspectors from the European Union, International Monetary Fund and European Central Bank to approve the country's (EURO)31.5 billion loan installment, and to talk his two center-left coalition partners into backing the necessary spending cuts and labor reforms.

Relief at pump ahead for NY area drivers

NEW YORK (AP)—Drivers in the New York area may soon get relief from long lines and higher gas prices.

A week after Superstorm Sandy hit the area, the price of gas has increased 10 cents per gallon or more in the New York City area and in hard-hit parts of New Jersey. Images of long lines of cars and interviews with frustrated drivers have become staples in news coverage of the storm's aftermath.

But across the U.S. the price of gasoline is falling—fast. It fell 7 cents this past week and has declined almost 9 percent in a month to $3.47 per gallon. The national average should be only slightly higher this Election Day than a year ago. That's due to a dramatic drop in the price of wholesale gasoline and low demand from a combination of cautious consumers and improving automotive fuel efficiency.

Wholesale gasoline futures fell about 12 percent in the last month and are down about 17 percent from a peak just before Hurricane Isaac made landfall in late August. Meanwhile, demand for gasoline has fallen for much of the year and oil prices have dropped recently.

On Monday, the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute said the average gas mileage of new vehicles sold in the U.S. reached its highest point ever in October. Fuel economy has now improved by 20 percent over the last five years and fuel consumption has fallen 17 percent, the institute said.

Prices should fall further in the coming weeks, according to Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service. Even people in the Northeast now standing or sitting in long lines for gas—what he calls the "hysteria" in New York and New Jersey—should catch a break.

Kloza predicts that within a week, many commuters across the country will be paying less to fill up than at this point last year. The national average is currently about 6 cents higher than a year earlier. It had risen to $3.87 in mid-September as oil neared $100 per barrel and gasoline supplies ran short in California and the East Coast because of issues with refineries.

Delta revenues up 5.5 percent in Oct.

Delta Air Lineson Friday reported financial and operating performance for October 2012.

During the month of October, Delta's unit revenues improved 5.5 percent versus prior year, primarily due to corporate revenue gains and continued capacity discipline.

In response to Hurricane Sandy, Delta cancelled more than 3,500 flights in October, which caused a 2-percent system capacity reduction versus prior year. The company is estimating that the hurricane negatively impacted October revenues by $45 million and reduced October profit by approximately $20 million. Delta is still assessing the impact to November, but expects it to be less than October. Delta's October unit revenue improvement was approximately one point higher than it would have been without the hurricane impact.

Delta's New York area operations are recovering from the storm's disruption. As of Thursday, Delta is operating at close to full schedule at New York-JFK and Newark, and operating at 80 percent of its normal schedule at LaGuardia. The company anticipates flying a full schedule at LaGuardia today.

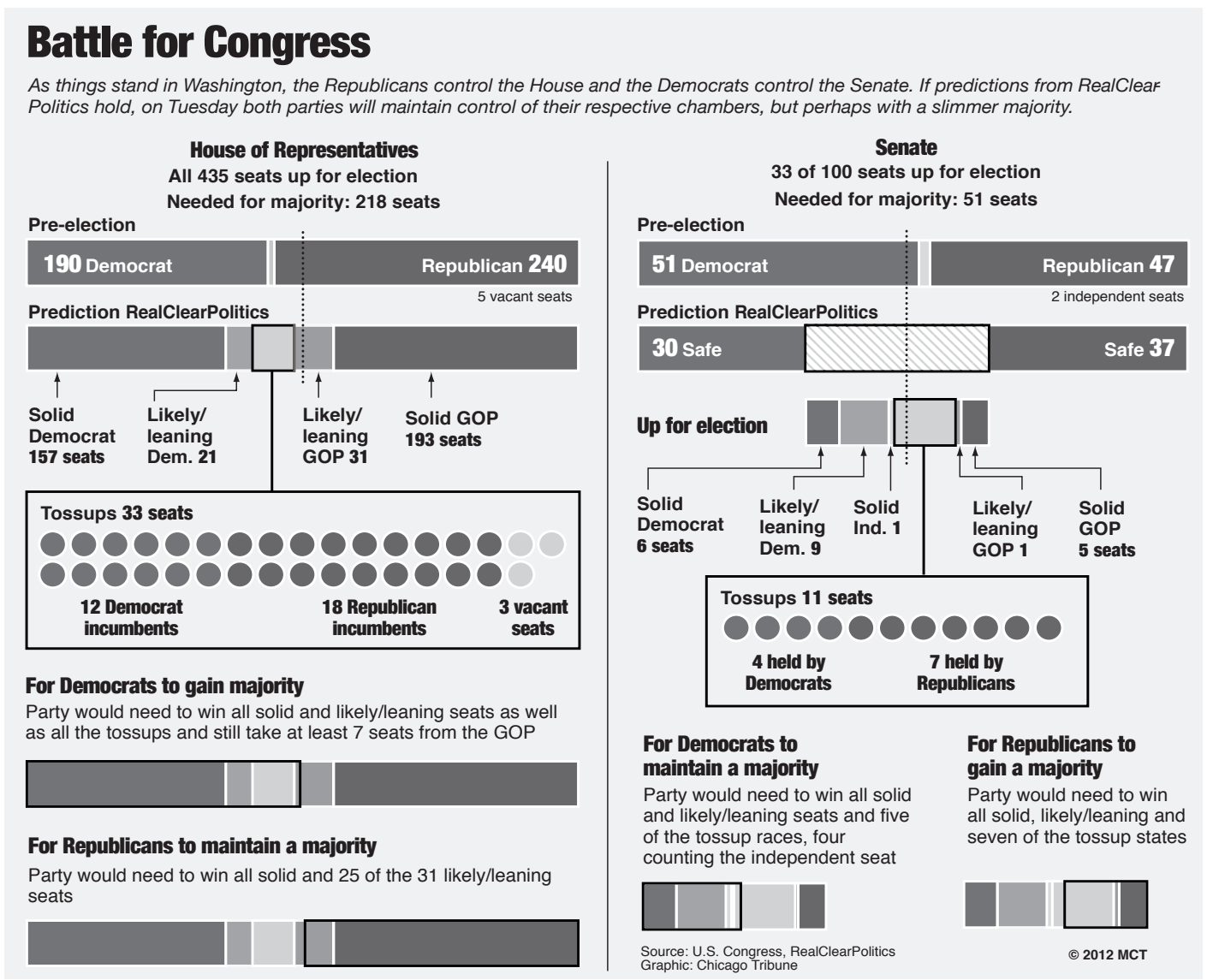
"I'm proud of the efforts of Delta's employees throughout the system in responding to the devastation of Hurricane Sandy and taking care of our customers," said Richard Anderson, Delta's chief executive officer. "It's during events such as these that the team's dedication to our passengers really shines."

Despite the impacts of the hurricane, Delta continued to have excellent operational performance in October. Delta's completion factor was 98 percent, and 85.5 percent of flights arrived on time.

Delta Air Lines serves more than 160 million customers each year. During the past year, Delta was named domestic "Airline of the Year" by the readers of *Travel Weekly magazine*, was named the "Top Tech-Friendly U.S. Airline" by *PCWorld* magazine for its innovation in technology, won the Business Travel News Annual Airline Survey and was the recipient of 12 *Executive Travel Magazine* Leading Edge Awards for U.S. airlines. With an industry-leading global network, Delta and the Delta Connection carriers offer service to nearly 313 destinations in 58 countries on six continents. Headquartered in Atlanta, Delta employs 80,000 employees worldwide and operates a mainline fleet of more than 700 aircraft. ***(Delta Air Lines)***

Nation

Americans face prospect of status quo Congress


Battle for Congress
As things stand in Washington, the Republicans control the House and the Democrats control the Senate. If predictions from RealClearPolitics hold, on Tuesday both parties will maintain control of their respective chambers, but perhaps with a slimmer majority.
House of Representatives
All 435 seats up for election
Needed for majority: 218 seats
Pre-election
190 Democrat
Republican 240
5 vacant seats
Prediction RealClearPolitics
Solid Democrat 157 seats
Likely/ leaning Dem. 21
Likely/ leaning GOP 31
Solid GOP 193 seats
Tossups 33 seats
12 Democrat incumbents
18 Republican incumbents
3 vacant seats
For Democrats to gain majority
Party would need to win all solid and likely/leaning seats as well as all the tossups and still take at least 7 seats from the GOP
For Republicans to maintain a majority
Party would need to win all solid and 25 of the 31 likely/leaning seats
Senate
33 of 100 seats up for election
Needed for majority: 51 seats
Pre-election
51 Democrat
Republican 47
2 independent seats
Prediction RealClearPolitics
30 Safe
Safe 37
Up for election
Solid Democrat 6 seats
Likely/ leaning Dem. 9
Solid Ind. 1
Likely/ leaning GOP 1
Solid GOP 5 seats
Tossups 11 seats
4 held by Democrats
7 held by Republicans
For Democrats to maintain a majority
Party would need to win all solid and likely/leaning seats and five of the tossup races, four counting the independent seat
For Republicans to gain a majority
Party would need to win all solid, likely/leaning and seven of the tossup states
Source: U.S. Congress, RealClearPolitics
Graphic: Chicago Tribune
© 2012 MCT

WASHINGTON (AP)—A barrage of negative ads, more than $2 billion in spending and endless campaign stops all come down to this: Americans likely will elect a Congress as divided as the one they've been ranting about for two years.

In Tuesday's voting, Republicans are poised to hold the 435-seat House, with Democrats expected to gain a small handful of seats at best from roughly 60 competitive races but fall well short of the net 25 needed for the majority. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, is poised to wield the gavel again.

Senate Democrats are likely to maintain their narrow advantage as two Republican candidates' clumsy comments about rape and abortion could cost the GOP Indiana and dampens its prospects of winning Missouri—two major roadblocks in the Republican path to the majority.

Republicans hoped the math would work in their favor—Democrats are defending 23 seats, the GOP 10—but solid Democratic recruits and the close presidential race, added to the GOP candidate stumbles may ensure that Nevada Sen. Harry Reid remains majority leader.

"That's extremely frustrating for what everyone thought was a Republican advantage," Ron Bonjean, a Republican consultant and former top Capitol Hill aide, said of the developments in Indiana and Missouri.

No matter who wins the presidency—President Barack Obama or Republican Mitt Romney—the nation's chief executive will be dealing with a Congress no closer to bridging the ideological chasm and showing no inclination to end the months of dysfunction. Tea party numbers are certain to tick up in the Senate with Republican Ted Cruz heavily favored in Texas and Deb Fischer looking to grab the Nebraska seat.

In the House, the movement that propelled the GOP to the majority in 2010 will be even more emboldened even if a few of the big-name tea partiers lose.

Sal Russo, head of the Tea Party Express, likened the group to the anti-Vietnam War movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s that he said remade the Democratic Party. He envisions the same with the GOP.

"In the sense that the anti-war movement brought out millions of people that had not been involved in politics and they became engaged in a material way," Russo said in an interview as he headed to what he expects will be a victory party for Cruz in Texas.

The Democratic Party, he insists, has never been the same and neither will the GOP after the influx of tea partiers.

When the Senate votes are counted, moderate Republicans and Democrats from Massachusetts and Montana could be gone, leaving the chamber with just a handful of the lawmakers inclined to reach across the aisle. Republican Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine decided to retire earlier this year, frustrated with the partisan gridlock in Congress.

New England's three other GOP senators are New Hampshire's Kelly Ayotte, Maine's Susan Collins and Massachusetts' Scott Brown, now an underdog against Democrat Elizabeth Warren in a race for the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's seat.

No rest in final campaign hours for Obama, Romney

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—The White House the prize, President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney raced through a final full day of campaigning on Monday through Ohio and other battleground states holding the keys to victory in a tight race. Both promised brighter days ahead for a nation still struggling with a sluggish economy and high joblessness.

"Our work is not done yet," Obama told a cheering crowd of nearly 20,000 in chilly Madison, Wis., imploring his audience to give him another four years.

Romney projected optimism as he neared the end of his six-year quest for the presidency. "If you believe we can do better. If you believe America should be on a better course. If you're tired of being tired ... then I ask you to vote for real change," he said in a Virginia suburb of the nation's capital. With many of the late polls in key states tilting slightly against him, he decided to campaign on Election Day in Ohio and Pennsylvania, where he and Republicans made a big, late push.

The presidency aside, there are 33 Senate seats on the ballot Tuesday, and according to one Republican official, a growing sense of resignation among his party's rank and file that Democrats will hold their majority.

The situation was reversed in the House, where Democrats made no claims they were on the verge of victory in pursuit of the 25 seats they need to gain control.

National opinion polls in the presidential race made the popular vote a virtual tie.

In state-by-state surveys, it appeared Obama held small advantages in Nevada, Ohio, Iowa and Wisconsin—enough to deliver a second term if they endured, but not so significant that they could withstand an Election Day surge by Romney supporters. Both men appealed to an ever smaller universe of undecided voters.

More than 30 million absentee or early ballots have been cast, including in excess of 3 million in Florida. The state also had a legal controversy, in the form of a Democratic lawsuit seeking an extension of time for pre-Election Day voting.

There were other concerns, logistical rather than legal.

Officials in one part of New Jersey delivered voting equipment to emergency shelters so voters displaced by Superstorm Sandy last week could cast ballots. New York City made arrangements for shuttle buses to provide transportation for some in hard-hit areas unable to reach their polling places.

Judging from the long early voting lines in some places and the comments made in others, the voters were more than ready to have their say.

"I watch the news all the time, and I am ready for it to be over," said Jennifer Walker, 38, of Columbus, Ohio, who said she took time off from work to attend the president's speech during the day in a show of support. "I feel like he is getting better with the economy. I don't think it's hopeless. It takes time."

But Bryan Dobes, 21, a University of Iowa student from suburban Chicago, voted for Romney on Monday and said unemployment and spending have been too high under Obama. "He promised a lot of hope and change, and I'm not seeing it," he said of the president.

Where will housing be found for Sandy's victims?

NEW YORK (AP)—Government leaders are turning their attention to the next crisis unfolding in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy: finding housing for potentially tens of thousands of people left homeless.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency said it has already dispensed close to $200 million in emergency housing assistance and has put 34,000 people in the New York and New Jersey metropolitan area up in hotels and motels.

But local, state and federal officials have yet to lay out a specific, comprehensive plan for finding them long-term places to live, even as cold weather sets in. And given the scarcity and high cost of housing in the metropolitan area and the lack of open space, it could prove a monumental undertaking.

For example, can enough vacant apartments be found? Will the task involve huge, Hurricane Katrina-style encampments of trailer homes? And if so, where will authorities put the trailers? In stadiums? Parks?

Authorities cannot answers those questions yet.

"It's not going to be a simple task. It's going to be one of the most complicated and long-term recovery efforts in U.S. history," said Mark Merritt, president of Witt Associates, a Washington crisis management consulting firm founded by former FEMA director James Lee Witt.

Tactics that FEMA used in other disasters could be difficult to apply in the city. For example, Merritt said, it's impossible to set up trailers in people's driveways if everyone lives in an apartment building, and it's harder to find space to set up mobile homes.

Sandy killed more 100 people in 10 states but vented the worst of its fury on New Jersey and New York. A week after the storm slammed the mid-Atlantic and the Northeast, 1.4 million homes and businesses remained in the dark.

Another storm—a nor'easter packing heavy rain and gusts of 50 to 60 mph—was headed for the metropolitan area Wednesday, threatening more flooding and power outages that could undo some of the repairs made in the past few days.

With the temperatures dropping into the 30s overnight, people in dark, unheated homes were urged to go to overnight shelters or daytime warming centers.

ACROSS THE NATION

Minnesota couple accused of starving adopted son

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A Minnesota couple are accused of starving their 8-year-old adopted son, feeding him only liquid and putting an alarm on his door so he would not steal food, according to criminal charges that say the boy was so malnourished his bones protruded and he weighed as much as a child half his age. Mona Hauer and Russell Hauer of North Mankato each are charged with six felonies, including neglect and malicious punishment of a child. In addition to starving the boy, authorities said, they beat him with a broom handle and made him sleep in a sled in the basement because he wet the bed. Online court records did not say whether the Hauers, who also have a biological child and adopted two of the boy's siblings, have an attorney. Multiple calls to the family's home went unanswered Monday and the voicemail box was full.

Prosecutor: US soldier had blood of victims on him

JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD, Wash. (AP)—The caped figure on the surveillance video came running out of the darkness to the edge of a remote Army outpost in southern Afghanistan. Blood was smeared on his face, prosecutors said, and soaked into his clothes. Less than a mile away, 16 Afghans, including nine children, were dead, some of their bodies on fire in two villages. As fellow soldiers stopped him at the base's gate, Staff Sgt. Robert Bales was incredulous, prosecutors said. Then, as he was taken into custody, Bales said, "I thought I was doing the right thing."

Asia

China relentlessly harries Japan in island dispute

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese patrol boats have harried the Japanese Coast Guard many times a week for more than a month in an unusually relentless response to their latest maritime spat.

Four Chinese craft typically push to within hailing distance of Japan's ships. They flash illuminated signs in Japanese to press Beijing's argument that it has ancient claims to a set of tiny East China Sea islands now controlled by Tokyo. China says its craft have tried to chase the Japanese away at least once, although Japan denies any of its ships fled.

The huge uptick in incidents has brought the sides into dangerously close proximity, reflecting a campaign by Beijing to wear down Japanese resolve with low-level, non-military maneuvers but also boosting the risk of a clash.

Although China wields a formidable arsenal, it has yet to deploy military assets in such encounters. Instead, Beijing has dispatched ships from government maritime agencies—only one of which is armed—to keep a lid on gunfire. Those agencies are now receiving added attention, with new ships on order and a national call going out for recruits.

China says ships from its Marine Surveillance service are merely defending Chinese sovereignty and protesting illegal Japanese control over the uninhabited islands, known as Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China. The missions began after Japan's government purchased three of the five islands from their private Japanese owner in September, enraging a Chinese government that saw it as an attempt to boost Japan's sovereignty claim. It also sparked violent anti-Japanese protests in dozens of Chinese cities.

AP

In this Oct. 25, 2012 file photo, ships of China Marine Surveillance and Japan Coast Guard steam side by side near disputed islands, called Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, in the East China Sea.

China's short-term goal has been primarily to force Japan to at least acknowledge that the islands are in dispute—something it has refused to do—but the boost in patrols raises the likelihood of a bigger confrontation, said Wang Dong, director of the Center for Northeast Asian Strategic Studies at Peking University.

"I'm very concerned about the current situation. The possibility of escalation cannot be ruled out," Wang said.

With emotions running high, any accident or miscalculation in these maritime missions could yield unexpected outcomes.

"One side might deploy a naval vessel in a support fashion, a move that the other would match," said M. Taylor Fravel of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who is closely following the dispute.

Japan has made it clear that it intends to meet the Chinese challenge in kind.

Japanese Coast Guard spokesman Yasuhiko Oku said the dispute was a factor behind the government's allocation last week of 17 billion yen ($212 million) to beef up the Coast Guard fleet with seven new patrol ships and three helicopters, though he said the new assets are not only for use around the islands.

Oku declined, for national security reasons, to say how many ships patrol the islands. But he said the dispute has been a "significant draw" on resources.

Tensions in the region were highlighted by U.S.-Japan naval exercises that began Monday at various locations, involving some 37,400 Japanese and 10,000 U.S. troops. At the same time, Japanese and Chinese diplomats were in consultation in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

China's Foreign Ministry said the exercises were "not conducive to mutual trust in regional security," and urged the parties to "do more that helps regional peace and stability."

China slams UN for criticizing it on Tibet unrest

BEIJING (AP)—China strongly objected Monday to a U.N. critique that it must better address grievances in Tibetan areas where there have been frequent self-immolations, saying the protests are instigated by exiles in an ``ugly and evil'' attempt to promote separatism.

Dozens of ethnic Tibetans have set themselves on fire in heavily Tibetan regions since March 2011 to protest what activists say is Beijing's heavy-handed rule there. U.N. human rights chief Navi Pillay urged Chinese authorities on Friday to better address grievances expressed by Tibetan people and allow independent monitors to visit the region.

Beijing has sought to play down the notion that people in Tibetan areas have complaints about Chinese rule by portraying any protests as being instigated from abroad by the exiled Buddhist spiritual leader the Dalai Lama and his supporters.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei rejected Pillay's comments and said the Dalai Lama is trying to glorify self-immolations in a campaign to undermine the Chinese government.

"The Dalai clique has made desperate efforts in dressing up those extreme acts which run counter to the national laws and religious principles. This will effectively push more people onto this road of no return," Hong told reporters in a regular briefing Monday.

"These ugly and evil acts intended to achieve the separatist goal of Tibetan independence at the expense of other people's lives go against universal humanity and morality and deserve strong condemnation," Hong said.

The Dalai Lama has said he opposes all violence and says the self-immolations are a symptom of the desperation and frustration felt by Tibetans living under the Chinese government's hardline policies in the region, including its tight restrictions on religious life. China's government says it has poured resources into the region to help it develop economically and improve the lives of its residents.

Pillay, the U.N.'s high commissioner for human rights, said in a statement that she was disturbed by "continuing allegations of violence against Tibetans seeking to exercise their fundamental human rights of freedom of expression, association and religion."

She said she was concerned by reports of "detentions and disappearances, of excessive use of force against peaceful demonstrators, and curbs on the cultural rights of Tibetans."

Pillay also said she hoped that Tibetans would refrain from self-immolation as a protest method, saying they should be permitted to express their feelings without being afraid of being punished. She also urged the Chinese government to allow independent monitors to visit and to allow reporters access to the region.

Group: Myanmar ethnic tensions block medical aid

BANGKOK (AP)—The European aid group Doctors Without Borders said Monday it has been prevented from providing essential medical services because of tensions between Buddhists and Muslims in western Myanmar.

The group said antagonism between Rakhine Buddhists and Rohingya Muslims had led to threats that have prevented it from providing health care for tens of thousands of people from both religions.

"It is outrageous that doctors are not allowed to carry out their duties providing care for those that need it," including some in life-threatening conditions, said the group's operations manager for Myanmar, Joe Belliveau.

The government said last week that 89 people were killed, 136 were injured and more than 32,000 made homeless in communal violence in Rakhine state last month in which more than 5,000 houses were burned down. Similar violence in June left about 90 people dead and 75,000 homeless.

Tensions remain high, with many Rakhine Buddhists calling for the segregation or expulsion of the Rohingya, and criticizing agencies that provide them with aid.

Doctors Without Borders said the tensions prevented it from helping people displaced by the crisis as well as others in need of normal clinical care.

Because of the threats, many of the group's staff are unwilling to carry out their work, "even though what we are doing is simply providing medical aid, and is in no way involved in the political situation," Belliveau said by phone from the Netherlands.

He said those hindering the group's work were "a small majority but a very vocal one." The threats were transmitted through letters, in person, on Facebook postings, and on some posters and pamphlets in the Rakhine state capital of Sittwe, he said.

ASIA BRIEFS

Pakistan parents killed daughter for eyeing boy

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A Pakistani couple accused of killing their 15-year-old daughter by pouring acid on her carried out the attack because she sullied the family's honor by looking at a boy, the couple said in an interview broadcast Monday by the BBC. The girl's death underlines the problem of so-called "honor killings" in Pakistan where women are often killed for marrying or having relationships not approved by their families or because they are perceived to have somehow dishonored their family. The girl's parents, Mohammad Zafar and his wife Zaheen, recounted the Oct. 29 incident from jail. The father said the girl had turned to look at a boy who drove by on a motorcycle, and he told her it was wrong.

3 Cambodian loggers fatally shot in Thailand

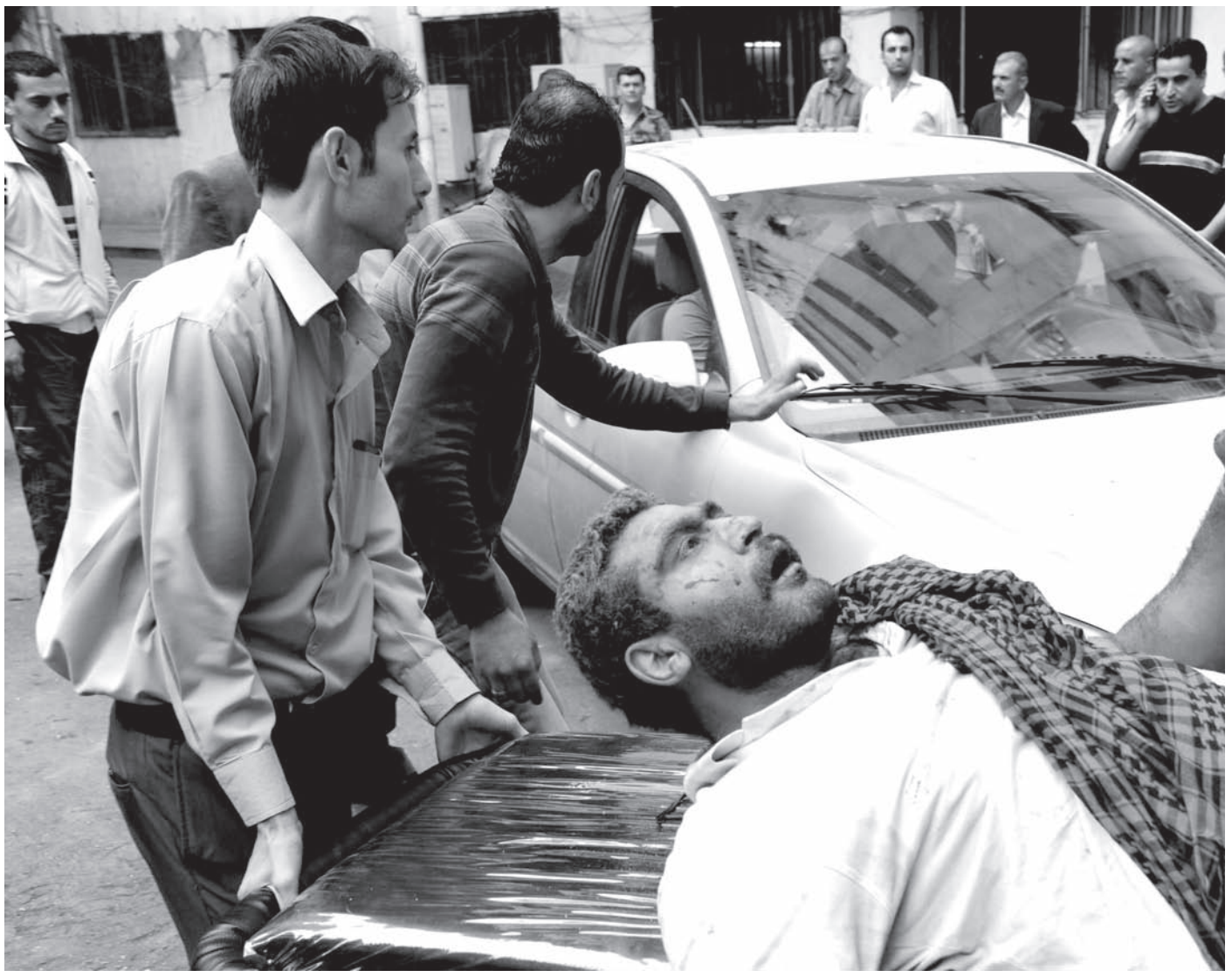
PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodian police say Thai soldiers shot and killed three Cambodians who were illegally logging across the border on Thai soil. The Samlot district police chief, Ly Bouy, says six Cambodians were taking a break from logging rosewood a few hundred meters (yards) from the border when the soldiers opened fire. He said Monday that three were killed and three managed to run away during the weekend incident. Thai police official Kampan Runapat said a special forestry task force composed of soldiers, police, rangers and local officials was patrolling the border area in Trat province on Saturday when it came across the illegal loggers. He said the loggers opened fire, triggering a 10-minute shootout in which three loggers were killed.

Prince Charles, wife begin Australia visit

SYDNEY (AP)—Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, are in Australia on a two-week tour of the Pacific. The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall landed in the Outback Queensland town of Longreach on Monday following a visit to Papua New Guinea. Dignitaries including Governor-General Quentin Bryce greeted the royal couple before they visited staff from the Royal Flying Doctor Service. They also watched a whip-cracking demonstration at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame. Prince Charles was presented with a six-foot leather whip of his own, while the Duchess of Cornwall cuddled an orphaned baby kangaroo.

World

Syrian chaos deepens as rebels, Palestinians fight



AP

This photo released by the Syrian official news agency SANA, shows a Syrian man helping an injured man at the scene after a blast occurred according to footage and reports shown on State-run Al-Ikhbariya television in the Mazzeh al-Jabal district of the Syrian capital Damascus, Syria, Monday, Nov. 5, 2012.

BEIRUT (AP)—New chaos engulfed Syria's civil war as Palestinian supporters and opponents of the embattled regime were swept up Monday in intense fighting in Damascus, while rival rebel groups clashed over control of a Turkish border crossing.

The rare infighting—accompanied by car bombs, airstrikes and artillery shells that killed or maimed dozens of people—heightened fears that if Syrian President Bashar Assad falls, the disparate factions battling the regime will turn on each other.

A suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden car near an army checkpoint in Hama province, killing 50 soldiers in one of the deadliest single attacks targeting pro-Assad troops in the 19-month uprising, according to activists. Eleven civilians died when a bomb exploded in a central Damascus neighborhood, state media said, and activists reported at least 20 rebels killed in air raid on the northern town of Harem.

"It's the worst-case scenario many feared in Syria," said Fawaz Gerges, director of the Middle East Center at the London School of Economics. "It's an all-out war."

The fighting in the capital of Damascus was some of the worst since July, when rebels took over several neighborhoods, only to be bombed out by regime forces days later. Shortly after those battles, rebels moved on Syria's largest city, Aleppo, and it has become a major front in the civil war since then.

The attacks on the two main cities have demonstrated new organization and capabilities of rebel forces as well as a determination to press their uprising despite the deaths of more than 36,000 people in almost 20 months of fighting.

When Syria's unrest began in March 2011, the country's half-million Palestinians struggled to stay on the sidelines. But in recent months, many Palestinians started supporting the uprising although they insisted the opposition to the regime should be peaceful.

One faction, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, led by Ahmed Jibril, has remained loyal to Assad.

The popular committees in the Damascus-area Palestinian refugee camp of Yarmouk, which are led by the PFLP-GC, said the fighting started Sunday when residents were attacked by gangs who claimed to include Palestinians fighting the government.

"The mercenaries who claim to have Palestinians among them" tried to infiltrate the camp but were repulsed by the popular committees, the statement said Monday. When the rebel attack failed, they fired mortars that killed and wounded several people, it added.

Egypt's new pope opposes religious constitution

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's new Coptic pope said Monday the constitution now being drafted will not be acceptable if it is overtly religious, a sign he would campaign with his Christian minority and secular groups against increasing Islam's role in the new charter.

In an interview aired Monday, a day after he was selected patriarch of Egypt's Coptic Church, Pope Tawadros II said the uprising that toppled President Hosni Mubarak last year has opened the way for a larger Coptic public role.

He said as pope, he will encourage the Christian community to participate more in political and public life, as well as elections. He charged that the country's Christian minority has been "intentionally" marginalized for years.

"After tens of years of marginalization and fake democracy, this has made some Copts isolated," he said in the interview aired on the private TV station ONTV.

"This is changing bit by bit, and it will take time. It needs encouraging, and so long as society is fair, and democracy is built fairly, you will see participation."

Tawadros said Egypt's richness lies in its cultural mix between Muslims and Christians.

Tawadros appeared to addressing his wary community about the rising political power of Islamists. A series of violent attacks on churches and a crackdown on freedom of worship and expression have caused them to worry about their future.

The election of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi heightened fears among the Copts that their rights might be curtailed. The fears have been further fueled by the process of writing a new constitution, which is dominated by Islamist groups seeking to increase the role of Islam in legislation.

Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood has said the constitution must be based on Islamic Shariah law, though that statement is open to different interpretations.

Tawadros said the country's new constitution, being drafted by a panel led by Islamists, will not be acceptable if it is too religious. He said religious laws have no place in the constitution.

"The constitution is for us all to live together, a common life, we need each other. This is the constitution that will bring us together," he said. "Any additions or hints that make the constitution religious will not be acceptable, not only to Copts but to many sectors in society."

TV report: Israel security heads nixed Iran attack

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's prime minister ordered the military to go on high alert for a looming attack on Iran's nuclear program two years ago, but backed off following strong objections from senior security officials, a respected Israeli news program reported Monday. The report exposed a deep rift between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his top security officials over the wisdom of attacking Iran but also indicated that Israel was much closer to carrying out a strike at that time than was previously known.

Channel 2 TV's flagship investigative program "Uvda," or "Fact," reported that toward the end of a meeting in 2010 Netanyahu and his defense minister, Ehud Barak, ordered Israel's military chief and director of the Mossad espionage agency to put the country on "P Plus" status—code for pre-attack mode on Iran.

The report said the officials were shocked. Then-military chief Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi warned that Israel's enemies would notice the measure, which might touch off a war. "This is not something you do if you are not sure you will ultimately want to carry it out," he was quoted by unidentified close associates as saying. "This accordion produces music when you play with it."

Meir Dagan, the Mossad chief at the time, was even blunter, telling the leaders that without seeking formal approval from Netanyahu's Security Cabinet, a decision-making body of government ministers, they were "taking an illegal decision." "The prime minister and defense minister simply tried to steal a decision to go to war," he was quoted by Uvda as saying. Dagan did not appear on camera, and Uvda attributed his remarks to his "associates."

Israel considers a nuclear-armed Iran to be an existential threat, citing Iranian denials of the Holocaust, its calls for Israel's destruction, its development of missiles capable of striking the Jewish state and its support for hostile Arab militant groups. Tehran says its nuclear program is peaceful and designed to produce energy and medical isotopes, a claim that Israel and many Western countries reject.

Dagan, who stepped down as Mossad chief in 2010, is believed to be the mastermind of Israeli efforts to sabotage the Iranian project. The Mossad is suspected of infiltrating deep into Iran, spreading viruses and assassinating nuclear scientists.

But Dagan has also opposed a full-fledged attack and since his retirement has lashed out openly at the leaders, describing them as warmongers bent on striking Iran at all costs.

Netanyahu has repeatedly said the threat of force must be seriously considered should economic sanctions fail. He recently warned that the world has until next summer at the latest to keep Iran from building a bomb. But analysts have debated whether the Israeli leader would really be willing to order the strike.

WORLD BRIEFS

Lights still out in Cuba's 2nd city after Sandy

HAVANA (AP)—Cuba's second city is still struggling to recover from the effects of Hurricane Sandy even as streetlamps in hard-hit lower Manhattan shine brightly and its subways begin rumbling through tunnels again. Two weeks after the storm blasted through Santiago, Cuba, the electrical grid has been restored to just 28 percent of normal as workers labor around the clock to replace power lines downed by thousands of fallen trees, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported Monday. "Sources in (state-run power company) Empresa Electrica emphasized that the task is titanic since it means building practically all of the secondary networks from the ground up," the agency said, and those are the ones "that deliver energy to homes and were the most impaired."

Anonymous movement protests on Guy Fawkes night

LONDON (AP)—Several hundred protesters wearing masks have gathered outside the British Parliament to mark Guy Fawkes night. The protesters Monday were supporters of Anonymous, a loosely-organized movement of cyber rebels and activists. Anonymous draws much of its iconography from the story of Fawkes, and the anti-hero's ghostly white mask is a staple of the online movement's demonstrations. The date of the latest protest, Nov. 5, coincides with that of Fawkes' failed 1605 gunpowder plot to blow up the House of Lords.

Campus Life

GCA celebrates Missions Week by praying for Kenya

Empty Vessel's Rose Smith, left, joins students of Grace Christian Academy celebrate Missions Week in October by dressing up in Kenyan costumes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grace Christian Academy students celebrate Missions Week every year in October. The students choose countries to pray for and learn about missions work in those countries, including the island of Saipan. During Missions Week, GCA students dress in the costumes of the country they are praying for and have activities for the public, parents, and students to participate in.

This year the school's K-4 students chose to pray for Kenya, and the GCA student contributed $200 to support seven orphans and street children through their donation to the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation.

Empty Vessel cares for and educates 34 children in Kenya, 10 in the Philippines, and two in Bangladesh. Sixty-one women also have benefited from a table banking loan program in Kenya where women borrow as little as $20 to start a small business to help themselves and their families. On Saipan, the ministry supports families in need by providing basic needs, such as school supplies given to children who are in need.

"Overall, it was very exciting to see young students dress in Kenya costumes at GCA. These students also presented a verse in Swahili and also danced a Kenyan song," said Empty Vessel's Rose Smith. "Thank you K-4 students, GCA administration, teachers, students, and parents for thinking about Kenya, and we at Empty Vessel sincerely appreciate your love and support for our mission work." ***(PR)***

Congratulations to GCA NJFL/NFL winners

NATIONAL JUNIOR FORENSIC LEAGUE
6TH, 8TH GRADE

Extemporaneous Speech
Mina Ito, 1st Place

Original Oratory
Mina Ito, 1st Place

Poetry Reading Masters A
Yu Jin Lee, 3rd Place

Poetry Reading Masters B
Robert Marmito, 2nd Place
Cyril Salcedo, 3rd Place

Poetry Reading C
Angela Marie Tan, 2nd Place
Amy Sim, 3rd Place
Ben Seo, 5th Place

Prose Reading Masters A
Dianne Arnold, 3rd Place

Prose Reading Masters B
Yu Jin Lee, 1st Place

Prose Reading A
Tina Choi, 1st Place

Story Telling
Melody Woo, 2nd Place

Duo Interpretation A
Peggy Pixley, 2nd Place
Dianne Arnold, 2nd Place

Francis Joseph Dalusung, 4th Place
Noah Camacho, 4th Place

Grace Christian Academy's NFL October winners have their picture taken inside the GCA campus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Duo Interpretation B
Cyril Salcedo, 1st Place
Robert Marmito, 1st Place

Amy Sim, 4th Place
Ben Seo, 4th Place

Impromptu Speech A
Francis Joseph Dalusung, 3rd Place
Dianne Arnold, 4th Place
Noah Camacho, 5th Place

Grace Christian Academy's NJFL October winners have their picture taken inside the GCA campus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE
9TH, 12TH GRADE

Prose Reading Masters A
Jimaela Ham, 1st Place

Prose Reading A
Rebekah Kim, 1st Place

Story Telling
Dong Ha Lee, 1st Place

Impromptu Speech A
Angela Mamaril, 1st Place
Terence Ho, 4th Place

Impromptu Speech B
Kayla Sasaki, 3rd Place

U.S. Extemporaneous Speech
Angela Mamaril, 2nd Place

Duo Interpretation A
Terence Ho, 1st Place
Dong Ha Lee, 1st Place

Jimaela Ham, 2nd Place
Rebekah Kim, 2nd Place

NJFL/NFL Coordinator: Ami Joy Danganan

US student punished for growing hair for charity

CANTON, Ohio (AP)—A U.S. teenager who's been growing his hair for a charity is being punished by his school because administrators say his long locks violate the dress code.

Seventeen-year-old Zachary Aufderheide is serving a two-day in-school suspension at Canton South High School in Ohio this week.

He's been growing out his hair for Locks of Love, which uses donated hair to make hairpieces for kids who have lost their own due to disease.

Aufderheide had told the school of his intentions, but on Monday he was told he would be suspended. His hair is an inch (25 millimeter) away from the 10 inches (254 millimeters) needed to donate to the charity.

Canton Local School Board President John Martin tells WJW-TV that while he respects the student's efforts, rules are rules.

Life & Style

Force is strong with dream 'Star Wars' directors

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's the question we've all been pondering from the second we heard that three more "Star Wars" movies were planned: Who will direct them?

When George Lucas announced last week he was selling Lucasfilm to Disney for $4.05 billion, he also revealed that the long-rumored Episodes VII, VIII and IX were in the works. Instantly, fans began tossing around names of directors who'd be a good fit for this revered material.

So let's call this a wish list, a wouldn't-it-be-cool list. Because a lot of the people here are tied up with franchises of their own—who knows if they'd be available to take over the first of these films, due out in 2015? Others are just people whose work I admire and I'd be curious to see how they'd apply their styles within this universe.

Then there's also the theory that Disney executives and Kathleen Kennedy, the current co-chairman of Lucasfilm who will become the division's president, won't want an auteur, someone who would put his or her own aesthetic stamp on the franchise. There goes your dream of seeing Chewbacca and R2-D2 through the eyes of David Lynch.

Whoever is chosen, whether it's a new director for each film or the same person taking over the trilogy, I think I speak for all of us when I say: Please, no Ewoks:

■ **J.J. ABRAMS:** The most obvious choice, really. His sci-fi bona fides were already beyond reproach, and he solidified them with his reimagining of the "Star Trek" franchise in 2009. His sequel "Star Trek Into Darkness" is due out next year. This just makes sense all around.

■ **JOSS WHEDON:** Another pretty obvious choice. Like Abrams, he has cultivated a well-deserved and loyal following among sci-fi fans between "Firefly" and "Serenity," but he catapulted himself into a whole 'nother stratosphere with this summer's enormous hit "The Avengers." Thing is, he may be just a tad busy with "The Avengers 2"—which is also due out in 2015.

■ **BRAD BIRD:** He directed the most recent and best in film in the "Mission: Impossible" series, last year's "Mission: Impossible—Ghost Protocol." It gave Bird the opportunity to use his animation expertise from the beloved Pixar films "The Incredibles" and "Ratatouille" to make a live-action movie that was lively and thrillingly staged. This would be an excellent fit.

■ **JON FAVREAU:** He's a massive "Star wars" fan and is extremely knowledgeable about Lucas and his life. He's also shown he can manipulate the kind of massive machinery it takes to make a blockbuster with the hugely successful "Iron Man" movies. This would also be a no-brainer.

■ **CHRISTOPHER NOLAN:** Dark Knight. 'Nuff said.

■ **PETER JACKSON:** Sure, it makes sense. He's gotten his arms around gigantic franchises with rabid fan bases, to universal acclaim and awards, with the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy. But the last of his three "Hobbit" movies comes out in 2014. He might already be kinda wiped out at this point.

■ **DAVID FINCHER:** A hugely confident, virtuoso filmmaker mostly known for drama, but his remake of the Swedish hit "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" was epic and just heart-poundingly thrilling, and "The Social Network" and "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" showcased his mastery of special-effects trickery.

■ **SAM MENDES**: This might seem like an odd choice until you see "Skyfall" this weekend. And you really should see "Skyfall" this weekend. But the "American Beauty" director said the whole experience of making a James Bond movie left him "knackered," to quote him, so who knows whether he'd be up for such a massive undertaking so soon.

■ **MATT REEVES:** A longtime friend and collaborator of Abrams, he directed "Cloverfield" which showed he has an eye for visceral sci-fi action. But "Let Me In," his English-language version of the Swedish vampire thriller "Let the Right One In," revealed his ability to create a chilly, tense mood.

■ **MATTHEW VAUGHN**: His "Kick-Ass" was exactly that, a lively, funny tale of wannabe superheroes, while his "X-Men: First Class" was one of the better-reviewed films in the series. Before that, his debut film "Layer Cake" (starring a pre-Bond Daniel Craig) showed an instinctive ability to create tension and mood.

■ **MARK ROMANEK**: He's just such an amazing visual stylist, I'd love to see what he'd do with this kind of well-established material. He made his name as a music video director, including the super-expensive space-age video for Michael Jackson's "Scream." But the couple of features he's made—"One Hour Photo" and "Never Let Me Go"—were so gorgeous and had such a signature look, I'd be curious to see what he could do with a bigger toy box.

■ **KATHRYN BIGELOW**: She's just a bad-ass, a pioneering female action director. She proved she had a way with big, splashy set pieces two decades ago with "Point Break" and became the first woman to win the best-director Oscar for "The Hurt Locker." I'd love to see this male-centric universe from a female perspective.

■ **GUILLERMO DEL TORO:** This is my dream "Star Wars" director. Of course, it will never happen. The ingenious maker of "Pan's Labyrinth" and the "Hellboy" movies has a visual style that's so wonderfully weird and inspired, it would never be allowed in such a structured setting. But it would be wondrous to watch.

■ **BEN AFFLECK**: Probably not the first name you would have thought of a month ago. But "Argo" proved that Affleck is a major filmmaker, and showed he could step deftly from the intimate drama of "Gone Baby Gone" and "The Town" into much a larger and more complicated project. Plus it would allow him to redeem himself with fanboys following the debacle of "Daredevil."

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing or a minimum of 3 years work related experience required. Preferably with F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation experience. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Nihonngo or Korean language will be advantage. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by November 15, 2012. Applications may also be sent to:info@dqsaipan.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Century Tours, Saipan

Opening Date: November 6, 2012 **Position:** Operations Clerk (3)
Closing Date: November 13, 2012 **Salary:** $5.55 per hour

Duties: Performs all and/or any combination of following clerical duties requiring knowledge of systems or procedures: operates office machines, such as desktop computers, laptops, typewriter, adding, calculating, and duplicating machines; enters room bookings and room report for bookings into computer and forwards the information to Shanghai office via email and telephone; confirms and reconfirms hotel bookings with Shanghai office; inform Tour Guides of guests bus number assignments; prepare correspondence, bills, statements, receipts, or other documents, copying information from one record to another; photocopies documents, using photocopier; answers correspondence and emails, and prepares mail and email to Shanghai office; obtains travel and hotel accommodations for guests; prepares tour schedules and itineraries, and compiles reports of transactions; obtains confirmation of travel and lodging space and rate information; prepares guests tour booklet, copy of tour itinerary, written lodging confirmations and tour suggestions. answers guests and Shanghai office inquiries concerning tour routes, sightseeing schedules, fares and fees, and accommodations; prepare activity forms for Tour Guides; prepare key envelopes for incoming guests; sorts and files records; copies data and compiles records and reports; finalize guests name list to hotels; make bus reservations; Answers telephone, conveys messages, and runs errands; reply to Shanghai office emails, and perform other related duties assigned or as required.

Position Requirements: High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 2 years work experience in tour operation, sales or service related experience; must be able to speak, read, and understand Mandarin; excellent communication, organizational, and sales skills preferred; must valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Application: Applications may be obtained from the Front Office of Century Tours, located at the Kanoa Resort, Saipan, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan.

KANOA RESORT SAIPAN
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions :

Position (1) SOUS CHEF
Duties: Supervises and coordinates activities of COOKS and other workers engaged in preparing and cooking stuff. Observes workers engaged in preparing, portioning and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing and sizes of portions are prescribed. Gives instructions to cooking personnel in fine points of cooking. Cooks and carves meats and prepare dishes, such as sauces, during rush periods and for banquet and other social functions. Assumes responsibility for kitchen in absence of Executive Chef.

Qualifications: Ability to direct and participate in the preparation and cooking of food. Must be able to work variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends. Five (5) years work experience as a Sous Chef is required and preferably in the hospitality industry.

Position (1) GUEST SERVICE AGENT
Duties: Greets, registers and assigns rooms to guest. Issues room key and escort instructions to Bellhop/Bellman. Date stamps, sorts and racks incoming mail and messages. Transmit and receives messages, using telephone or telephone switchboard. Answers inquiries pertaining to hotel services, registrations of guests, and shopping, dinning, entertainment and travel directions. Keeps records of room availability and guests accounts manually or using computer. Computes bills, collects payment and make changes for guest. Makes and confirms reservations. May post charges, such as room, food, liquor or telephone to ledger, manually or using computer. May make restaurant, transportation or entertainment reservation and arrange for tours. May deposit guests valuables in hotel safe or safe deposit box. Responsible in providing guest fast, friendly and efficient service.

Qualifications: Must have knowledge in Microsoft Office Applications and Fidelio System. Must have outstanding ability to perform several tasks at once. Must be able to work flexible schedule including weekends, nights and holidays. Must have strong customer service and interpersonal skills. Frequent standing and walking on the job is required. Must have at least 2 years work experience as guest service and/or reservation agent. Must be of high school graduate or equivalent. Must have knowledge in foreign language and be able to speak, read and write in Japanese language or in Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than November 10, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is located next to Saipan World Resort
Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Aerosmith plays free outdoor concert in Boston

AP

Aerosmith members, from left, Tom Hamilton, Steven Tyler and Joey Kramer perform a free concert Monday, Nov. 5, 2012 in Boston's Allston neighborhood as fans watch from the apartment building which was their home in the early 1970's.

BOSTON (AP)—Thousands of Aerosmith fans watched the band perform on Monday in front of the building in Boston where they once lived.

People hung out windows, crowded fire escapes and stood on roofs on Commonwealth Avenue to watch a free concert meant to encourage voting and promote the band's new album, which comes out Tuesday, Election Day.

The band played songs including "Walk this Way," ''Sweet Emotion" and some from their new album, "Music from Another Dimension!"

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was among those at the show, getting on stage with other football team officials after the band arrived in an amphibious tour vehicle.

The caravan of seven duck boats shut down city streets as a police escort led the way from TD Garden arena to 1325 Commonwealth Ave.

Some fans lined streets to wave to the band as their caravan rolled past landmarks including Boston Common and City Hall, and many skipped work or school to go the show.

Angela Menino, wife of Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, presented band members with street signs commemorating their old address and a city plaque that will be mounted in front of the building.

It says Steven Tyler, Joe Perry, Brad Whitford, Joey Kramer, and Tom Hamilton lived in the building's second story in the 1970s, and that it was there the "The Bad Boys of Boston" got their start in rock music.

A track on Aerosmith's self-titled album called "Movin' Out" was about moving out of the apartment. But Monday, the rock stars were happy to be back in their old digs.

Building resident Melissa Morrissey snapped a photo of Tyler as the front man came in the building minutes before Aerosmith got on a stage in the back of an 18-wheeler.

Morrissey said she'd already planned to vote and buy the band's new release, but Monday's show was something special.

"It's just really, really cool that they came back to where they started to show their appreciation," she said.

The show caused transportation disruptions with a trolley service suspension, road closures and parking bans, but police said the show went off without any major hitches.

And with U.S. political races entering their final hours Monday, Aerosmith ended its Election Day Eve show by blasting the crowd with red, white and blue confetti.

Later, band members also made imprints of their hands in squares of wet cement, which the city plans to plant in front of the rockers' old Boston home.

Bond is better than ever in 'Skyfall'

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

AP

This film image released by Columbia Pictures shows Daniel Craig as James Bond in the action adventure film, "Skyfall."

MOVIE REVIEW

To borrow a line from Depeche Mode, death is everywhere in "Skyfall." James Bond's mortality has never been in such prominent focus, but the demise of the entire British spy game as we know it seems imminent, as well.

Still, this 23rd entry in the enduring James Bond franchise is no downer. Far from it: simultaneously thrilling and meaty, this is easily one of the best entries ever in the 50-year, 23-film series, led once again by an actor who's the best Bond yet in Daniel Craig. So many of the elements you want to see in a Bond film exist here: the car, the tuxedo, the martini, the exotic locations filled with gorgeous women. Adele's smoky, smoldering theme song over the titles harkens to the classic 007 tales of the 1960s, even as the film's central threat of cyberterrorism, perpetrated by an elusive figure who's seemingly everywhere and can't be pinned down, couldn't be more relevant.

And yet "Skyfall" seems like it could stand on its own perhaps more than most Bond movies. In the hands of director Sam Mendes, it almost feels like a reinvention; he has said making "Skyfall" left him "knackered," but audiences will leave feeling invigorated. And with Mendes collaborating once again with the great cinematographer Roger Deakins, it's definitely the most gorgeous.

Deakins, who also shot Mendes' "Jarhead" and "Revolutionary Road," provides a varied array of looks, all of them dazzling. The MI6 headquarters, which must be moved to a hidden underground location following a vicious attack, have a crisp and stylish industrial-loft chic about them. The rugged hills of Scotland, where the final battle occurs at Bond's ancestral home, are both wondrous and imposing; by this point in the film, "Skyfall" extends beyond the familiar confines of a spy thriller and becomes a flat-out Western. It's a bold move.

But the most beautiful sequence of all plays out in an empty office space in a Shanghai skyscraper: a mesmerizing mix of cool glass surfaces, delicate projected images and bold color, reminiscent of the lush hues in Mendes' "Road to Perdition." Within this precise setting, Mendes knows well enough to let the hand-to-hand combat between Bond and a sniper unfold without the kind of needless edits that unfortunately have become so popular in action films these days.

Bond being Bond, he can still get himself out of any dangerous situation; the opening chase, which begins in Istanbul's Grand Bazaar and ends in impossibly daring fashion on top of a hurtling train, is a marvel of timing and choreography. Conversely, he can also talk himself into situation, as he does when he seduces the beautiful and dangerous Severine (Berenice Marlohe) after meeting her in a Macau casino.

But Bond's vulnerability—dare we say, his weakness at times—makes him a much more complicated and captivating figure. He's not always totally smooth and slick. The work is taking a physical and psychological toll. Muscular and sexy as Craig is, he looks beat-up and worn-out here, which adds what feels like an unprecedented sense of depth to a character we thought we'd known so well for so long. Three films into the series and Craig owns this iconic role by now, with his stoic cool and willingness to explore a dark side.

This time, James Bond must try and protect his no-nonsense boss, M, from what feels like a very personal attack, even as it seems that she may not necessarily be protecting him in return. The always whip-smart and dignified Judi Dench gets to explore her character's hidden fears in the script from Neal Purvis & Robert Wade and John Logan, which adds some unexpected and welcome layers to her performance, as well. Ralph Fiennes, as M's new superior, questions her ability to lead this aging behemoth of an agency in an increasingly unstable environment; at the same time, Ben Whishaw provides some welcome, subtle humor as young gadget guru Q, whose modern-day specialty is computer hacking.

And then there is Javier Bardem, who pretty much steals this entire movie away from these esteemed and formidable actors. He is, totally unsurprisingly, tremendous as the villainous Silva, the former MI6 agent getting his revenge against this staid, old-fashioned organization in high-tech, ultra-efficient ways that make him seem unstoppable. Like so many Bond bad guys, he wants world domination through orchestrated chaos. But he approaches the role with a mix of effeminate flamboyance and cold-blooded menace. He's hilarious and terrifying—and that's just in the beautifully shot monologue in which he introduces himself with touches of The Joker in "The Dark Knight" and Bardem's own Anton Chigurh in "No Country for Old Men."

Ultimately, the reports of James Bond's death are greatly exaggerated. Fifty years later, nobody does it better.

"Skyfall," a Columbia Pictures release, is rated PG-13 for intense violent sequences throughout, some sexuality, language and smoking. Running time: 143 minutes. Four stars out of four.

Danny Boyle opposes plan to sell Moore sculpture

LONDON (AP)—Director Danny Boyle has joined leading British arts figures urging a cash-strapped local authority not to sell off a valuable Henry Moore sculpture—arguing it should be erected in London's Olympic Park instead.

"Draped Seated Woman" is owned by London's Tower Hamlets Council and stood for years on a public housing complex in the city's East End.

Last month the council announced plans to sell the bronze artwork to offset funding cuts. Estimates of its value range from 5 million pounds to 20 million pounds ($8 million to $32 million).

Tower Hamlets Mayor Luthur Rahman said the local authority faced a "stark choice" at a time of economic weakness and government austerity.

Moore, who died in 1986, is one of Britain's best-known 20th-century artists, and his curved, semi-abstract forms stand in public spaces around the world.

He sold "Draped Seated Woman" to the now-defunct London County Council in 1960 for a token price so it could enrich the lives of residents in a poor area.

During its years in the East End it became known locally as "Old Flo" and was regularly vandalized.

When the housing project was demolished in the late 1990s, the work was moved to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in northern England.

The proposal to sell it has sparked a campaign to return the artwork to east London, a vibrant but poverty-scarred area that hosted this summer's Olympic Games.

Boyle, artists Jeremy Deller and Rachel Whiteread, Tate galleries director Nicholas Serota and the sculptor's daughter Mary Moore are among signatories to a letter asking the council to reconsider.

Boyle, who won an Academy Award for "Slumdog Millionaire" and directed the opening ceremony of the Olympics, said Monday that the sculpture "defies all prejudice in people's minds about one of London's poorest boroughs."

"That alone makes it priceless to every resident," he said. "Let's put it in the Olympic Park alongside the Bradley Wiggins Bell"—rung by the British cycling champion to mark the opening of the games.

The Museum of London also has offered to display the sculpture.

The council is due to decide on the work's fate on Wednesday.

Sharon Osbourne has double mastectomy

LONDON (AP)—Sharon Osbourne says she had a double mastectomy after learning she carries a gene that increases the risk of developing breast cancer.

Osbourne told Hello! magazine that "I didn't want to live the rest of my life with that shadow hanging over me."

The 60-year-old "America's Got Talent" judge, who had colon cancer a decade ago, said that without the surgery, "the odds are not in my favor."

She added: "It's not 'pity me,' it's a decision I made that's got rid of this weight that I was carrying around."

The magazine went on sale Monday.

Osbourne, husband Ozzy and children Jack and Kelly became rock's most famous clan thanks to reality show "The Osbournes" a decade ago.

Jack Osbourne, 26, was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

AP

This Jan. 15, 2012 file photo shows Sharon Osbourne at the 69th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Los Angeles.

MTV to air fundraiser for devastated Jersey shore

NEW YORK (AP)—MTV, home of the "Jersey Shore" reality show, plans to air a fundraising special to help rebuild New Jersey's devastated shoreline.

The program will air Nov. 15 from MTV's Times Square studio in New York City. It will feature the cast of "Jersey Shore" along with other guests.

The network said Monday the program will solicit contributions for the rebuilding of Seaside Heights, the heart of the Jersey shore and the principal setting for the "Jersey Shore" series.

MTV will be partnering with Architecture for Humanity, a nonprofit organization that provides design and construction services to communities in need.

Seaside Heights was among numerous coastal areas devastated by Sandy last week.

No Doubt apologizes, pulls offensive music video

NEW YORK (AP)—No Doubt has pulled its new cowboys-and-Indians-themed music video and is apologizing to Native Americans and others offended by the clip.

In a posting on its website, the band says the video for "Looking Hot" was "never to offend, hurt or trivialize Native American people."

The video features Gwen Stefani and bandmate Tony Kanal dressed in traditional Native American clothes, while Adrian Young and Tom Dumont are in cowboy get-ups with guns. Dumont and Young tie up Stefani, while Kanal is behind bars.

The clip includes Stefani riding a horse and singing in a tepee, and a fire-burning dance scene with others dressed in Native American clothes.

The band says it consulted with Native American friends and experts but realize people have been offended and "sincerely apologize."

AP

This Sept. 21, 2012 file photo originally released by Clear Channel shows Gwen Stefani of No Doubt performing at the 2012 iHeartRadio Music Festival at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nev.

Jack McBrayer prepares for life post-'30 Rock'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jack McBrayer can see the end of "30 Rock" just up ahead.

The Emmy-nominated actor best known as Kenneth the Page from the Emmy-winning show says the mood is getting sad on set as the final days of filming near.

"Toward the end it's going to start getting emotional," he said, "and I'm going to start stealing stuff right and left."

Among the items he hopes to acquire? His blue NBC page uniform: "It's pretty much just formed to my own skin like body paint at this point."

A star of the weekend's top film "Wreck-It Ralph," McBrayer said he's eager to see what roles the future might hold.

"I know how good I got it right now, so on the one hand, I'm like if it ain't broke, don't fix it," he said. "But then you do always wonder, like, what if I would be the best serial killer in the world or something? So I'm open for anything. Like I said, old boy just wants to work."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Controversial Guns N' Roses promo being modified

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A Las Vegas resort criticized for a suggestive ad campaign promoting Guns N' Roses shows is apologizing for the flap and changing the artwork. Ads for the band's four-week run at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino depicted a disheveled woman who appeared to be sexually assaulted beneath the "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign. The artwork came to the attention of county commissioners after they temporarily renamed a street Paradise City Road in honor of the band's famous song. Rape crisis groups decried the campaign, saying it glorified domestic violence and could re-traumatize victims. The Hard Rock issued a statement saying it regrets that the campaign offended members of the community, and it started modifying the ads Friday.

Rushdie discusses books, life under fatwa

ATLANTA (AP)—Salman Rushdie says he's pleased that readers of his novel, "The Satanic Verses," are beginning to consider it "in the world of books" and not just "the world of scandal and politics." Rushdie spoke with the Atlanta Press Club on Monday about how young readers have the chance to consider it as a literary work. They weren't around when the 1988 book was declared blasphemous by Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini who called for Rushdie's death. His recent memoir, "Joseph Anton," details the years after that he spent in hiding. Rushdie also teaches at Emory University and talked about how he chose the pseudonym "Joseph Anton" during the fatwa. He says it was a mash-up of authors Joseph Conrad and Anton Chekhov, who represented the underground world he was living in and the isolation.

Woman can't achieve perfect family with boyfriend in jail

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Rick," is in prison and has been there for two years. He is the father of my 2-year-old son. I got pregnant three months into our relationship.

Ten days after our son was born, Rick had to turn himself in for something that happened prior to my getting pregnant. He was sentenced to five years. He was supposed to serve only two years of it, but another charge caused that to change, and he won't be home for another year and a half.

I'm starting to get confused about our relationship because we barely have one anymore. We never get to see each other or talk.

Every time I have a night out I meet different people, but I feel too guilty to continue with anything. My girlfriends all tell me I need to move on, that I don't deserve this and that I'M the one "in prison." But I really want the perfect family.

What do you think I should do, Abby? Move on and be happy, or sit here playing the waiting game?

LOST AND CONFUSED

DEAR LOST: I'm glad you asked. Although Rick is the father of your little boy, you are not married to him. Therefore you are not morally obligated to put yourself into suspended animation until he is released from prison.

If you really want the "perfect family," you should do as your friends advise and move on, not because Rick made a mistake that got him into prison, but because there was a second offense that extended his sentence. It suggests a pattern.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: A few weeks ago I was given the news that a close friend had committed suicide. I wish I could say it's the first time I have been in this situation, but I can't. My issue is, I think suicide is more than a little selfish and I am unable to get beyond my anger. How do I support the family and friends of a loved one who has died by suicide when I can't get past the anger?

OVERCOME IN GLEN BURNIE, MD.

DEAR OVERCOME: I'm sorry for the loss of your friend. While it is normal to feel angry about the suicide, you also need to find some compassion. Individuals who decide to end their lives do so for various reasons—to stop overwhelming emotional pain, because of mental illness, to punish someone, because of an incurable illness, and sometimes out of impulse.

Whatever your friend's reason was, please do not take it out on the grieving family and friends. They are dealing with enough of their own mixed emotions right now. If you feel you can't control your emotions, stay away until you can.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband is in a nursing home for long-term care. The holidays will soon be here. How do I sign the holiday cards? Should I include my husband's name? My son is living with me. Do I include his name, too?

GETTING READY IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR GETTING READY: It is perfectly acceptable to include all three names on your holiday cards. (Send them out early, because the post office is sure to be especially busy in December.)

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was wondering what families should do with old pictures if someone in their family is transgender.

ANDY IN OHIO

DEAR ANDY: They should ask their transgendered relative what he or she would like done with the pictures and take their lead from the person's wishes.

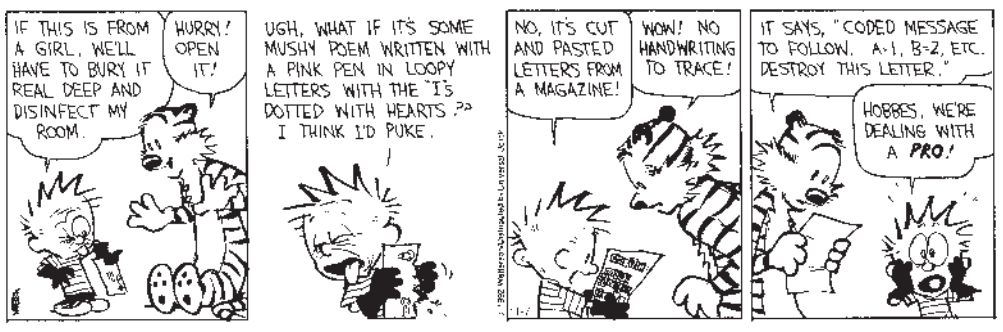
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

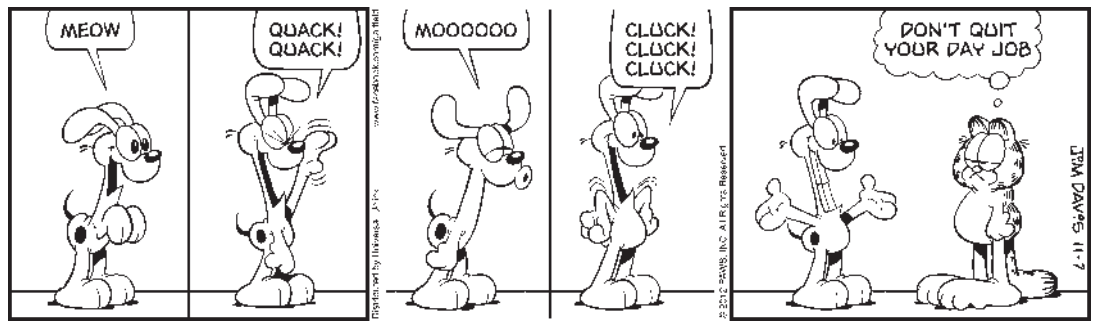
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IF THIS IS FROM A GIRL, WE'LL HAVE TO BURY IT REAL DEEP AND DISINFECT MY ROOM.
HURRY! OPEN IT!
UGH, WHAT IF IT'S SOME MUSHY POEM WRITTEN WITH A PINK PEN IN LOOPY LETTERS WITH THE "I'S DOTTED WITH HEARTS ?? I THINK I'D PUKE.
NO, IT'S CUT AND PASTED LETTERS FROM A MAGAZINE!
WOW! NO HANDWRITING TO TRACE!
IT SAYS, "CODED MESSAGE TO FOLLOW. A-1, B-2, ETC. DESTROY THIS LETTER."
HOBBES, WE'RE DEALING WITH A PRO!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



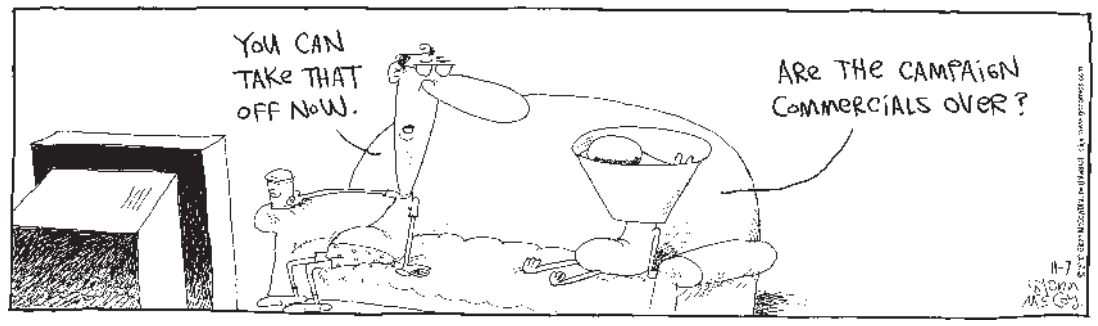
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WAIT, CLAYTON. I THINK I'D LIKE TO TALK TO THOSE 6TH GRADERS FIRST... ALONE.
OH, ALL RIGHT. BUT IF THERE'S ANY TROUBLE, WE GO TO THE PRINCIPAL.
DEAL.
FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER
TO THE PRINCIPAL'S WE GO.
IF IT HELPS, THAT MUSTACHE MAKES YOU LOOK MORE DISTINGUISHED.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Emanation
5 Comedian DeLuise
8 Edinburgh dweller
12 Quarrel
13 — budget
14 Color quality
15 Think about
17 Erstwhile Peruvian
18 Mean
19 Animal shelter
21 Corroded
22 H.H. Munro's pseudonym
23 Handy Latin abbr.
26 Bobby of hockey lore
28 Celebrate
31 Cheer (for)
33 Still
35 Guns the engine
36 Literary category
38 With 46-Down, shared fairly
40 Scarlet
41 Bound
43 Billboards
45 Black eye, e.g.
47 Proof that you're who you say you are
51 Galley lineup
52 Shopper, e.g.
54 Thing
55 Part of "to be"
56 Part of N.B.
57 Metallica drummer Ulrich
58 Homer's neighbor
59 From the start

DOWN

1 Spore cases
2 Word after 10-Down
3 Carry on
4 Bewildered
5 Unsteady, as from old age
6 Inseparable
7 Report card data
8 Scoundrel
9 Underhanded one
10 Fairy tale starter
11 Blue hue
16 Grooving on
20 Listener
23 Work unit
24 Pirouette pivot
25 Magician
27 Agt.
29 First lady
30 Leary's drug
32 Platitudes
34 Coached
37 Type measures
39 Probability
42 Pie nut
44 Diving gear
45 Seethe
46 See 38-Across
48 Prayer ending
49 Actress Russo
50 Sketched
53 Tramcar contents

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	L	T	O	■	S	K	I	■	B	L	A	H
C	U	E	D	■	E	E	L	■	A	I	D	E
H	A	R	D	B	A	L	L	■	L	E	A	R
Y	U	M	■	A	M	P	■	P	L	U	M	B
■	■	■	F	R	Y	■	J	I	F	■	■	■
H	I	F	I	S	■	D	E	N	I	Z	E	N
A	L	O	E	■	H	O	T	■	E	I	R	E
S	K	E	L	T	O	N	■	A	L	G	A	E
■	■	■	D	O	E	■	H	I	D	■	■	■
L	O	F	T	Y	■	G	O	O	■	R	O	W
A	G	A	R	■	T	R	I	P	W	I	R	E
D	E	L	I	■	H	I	S	■	O	P	E	N
Y	E	L	P	■	O	P	T	■	E	A	S	T

Yesterday's answer 11-7

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				16				■	17			
18						■	19	20				
■	■	■	21			■	22				■	■
23	24	25	■	26		27	■	28			29	30
31			32	■	33		34	■	35			
36				37	■	38		39	■	40		
■	■	41			42	■	43		44	■	■	■
45	46					■	47			48	49	50
51				■	52	53						
54					55			■	56			
57				■	58			■	59			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason and Jeremy London, 40; Todd McKee, 49; Joni Mitchell, 69.

Happy Birthday: Focus on learning, traveling and expanding your interests. Don't let opportunities pass you by, regardless of what others do. Make changes based on your needs. Recognize the big picture, and set your sights on the highest position you can achieve. In the end, it's about the journey, not the destination. Embrace change and bask in the spotlight. Your numbers are 6, 15, 17, 21, 26, 35, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Focus on what and whom you know and how you can market your skills. Consider a geographical move that will benefit you professionally. You can strike a deal that will bring in cash, but get what you want in writing. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Using emotional tactics to get your way will end up costing you. Honesty and integrity will count in the end; don't compromise your position due to stubbornness or a minor detail. Turn your attention to fulfilling an obligation. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Show off what you have to offer. Being consistent will determine whether you will be able to parlay what you have to offer into something substantial. Love and romance look promising. Take time out to socialize. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Give more thought to your personal life and future. The information you pick up now will alter the way you do things as well as the direction you follow. Let your creative imagination lead the way and you will not be disappointed. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Choose your battles wisely. There is no point making a fuss over an issue you cannot win. Devote your time to making the changes that will transpire into getting your way without using pressure or bullying someone to give you what you want. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Deal with the consequence of being honest. Face your demons and the people who drag you down. Start fresh and strive for the life you've always wanted to live. Set priorities, take charge of your life and you will find happiness. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You will learn a valuable lesson from someone in a position of authority. Travel plans and getting together with old friends will open a window of opportunity that will transform your current situation. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Refuse to let your emotions get the better of you when dealing with professional affairs. Focus on what you can contribute, not what you can get in return. A unique solution will help keep the peace. Explore different lifestyles. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Travel plans or a change of scenery will help you make an important decision that will alter what you do for a living. Follow your heart. Love, romance and building an unusual connection with someone special will pay off. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Refrain from sharing too much personal information with others. You are better off remaining a little mysterious until you achieve what it is you want. Don't let a last-minute alteration that someone makes disrupt your plans. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take care of personal, financial and medical issues as well as alterations that need to be made at home. Opportunities will develop if you are generous with your time and your talents. There is a gift or cash heading in your direction. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Watch and observe, but avoid aggressive moves that might lead to a negative response. Show interest in what everyone around you is doing without criticizing or letting anyone know where you stand. Impulsive reactions will result in opposition. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are progressive, adaptable and spontaneous. You are worldly and perceptive.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				2				
8	3		7	1	4		9	6
	6		9		5	4		8
	9		3		1			4
	1		4		2			7
	7	5				2	1	
		4				7		
			5		7			
			1	9	6			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	5	8	7	6	3	9	1
1	8	6	3	4	9	7	5	2
7	9	3	5	1	2	6	8	4
5	1	7	9	2	4	8	6	3
8	2	9	1	6	3	5	4	7
6	3	4	7	5	8	1	2	9
9	6	1	4	8	7	2	3	5
3	7	8	2	9	5	4	1	6
4	5	2	6	3	1	9	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/06

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TEMPER TANTRUMS Solution: 7 letters

S	S	A	O	E	T	R	I	C	K	A	E	W	E	S
C	T	D	U	V	Y	Z	N	E	R	F	A	K	E	E
R	O	U	T	A	C	L	I	M	A	(T)	(E)	(S)	(T)	K
E	M	L	B	R	N	R	O	I	V	A	H	E	B	O
A	P	T	U	B	H	X	Y	S	U	O	L	A	E	J
M	I	S	R	S	O	Y	I	I	A	D	J	U	S	T
I	N	S	S	S	E	R	T	E	N	D	M	O	G	S
N	G	S	T	L	S	G	N	H	T	G	N	N	T	Y
G	U	I	L	O	N	C	E	N	M	Y	I	E	S	O
F	F	I	A	I	P	X	E	O	E	L	I	S	S	T
E	N	H	T	O	T	P	O	N	E	S	O	W	T	S
G	C	N	W	R	E	D	I	E	E	B	S	I	E	T
A	A	E	E	R	A	E	F	N	I	A	R	T	S	N
R	R	M	W	A	R	N	I	N	G	O	N	C	P	A
P	E	R	S	I	S	T	E	M	P	E	R	H	U	W

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Adjust, Adults, Anxiety, Behavior, Bossy, Brave, Chaos, Climate, Crying, Extreme, Fake, Fear, Feeling, Fits, Frenzy, Fuss, Jealousy, Jokes, Mood, Outburst, Persist, Power, Rage, Ranting, Rhythm, Sadness, Scene, Screaming, Shriek, Stomping, Stopping, Strain, Stubbornness, Switch, Tears, Temper, Test, Toys, Trick, Upset, Wants, Waming, Weak, Yelling

Yesterday's Answer: Install

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $450-$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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(2) Waitress, (2) Cook, (4) Sales Representative
2 yrs experience. Knowledge in Chinese language a plus. Salary $5.55/hr.

Email tomastchong@gmail.com or Call 888-5748.

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Send resume to PMB 605 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
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(1) Assistant Manager
(2) Cook Helper
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Closing Date: November 9, 2012

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Saipan Tribune

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P.O. Box 520800, San Jose Village, Tinian MP 96952 Tel. (670) 433-2664; Fax (670) 433-4329

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Date:	Nov 07, 2012
Close Date:	Nov 16, 2012
Position:	(1) Executive Assistant
Salary:	$1,250 per month
Benefit:	Medical Insurance 50% paid by the company
Qualification:	AA Degree or College Graduate (5) yrs experience
Link:	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-6011.00

Fax resume to (670) 433-4329 or email phil@shermanpacific.com on or before Nov 16, 2012

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P.O. Box 520800, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. (670) 433-4427; Fax. (670) 433-4329

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Date:	Nov 07, 2012
Close Date:	Nov 16, 2012
Position:	(1) Bookkeeper
Salary:	$5.55 - $6.05 Per Hour
Qualification:	AA degree/College Graduate (3) yrs experience
Link:	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-3031.00
Position:	(1) Maintenance Technician
Salary:	$5.55 per hour
Qualification:	High School Diploma or Vocational (5) yrs experience
Link:	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/49-9071.00

Fax resume to (670) 433-4329 or email tinianfuel@yahoo.com on or before Nov 16, 2012.

JVA for Kinpachi Restaurant

Yano Enterprises, Inc

Restaurant Waitress (3): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (2): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bldg. 1, Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

VEHICLE FOR SALE

2002 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA

For more information, please contact Bank of Guam through its counsel, Robert T. Torres at telephone numbers (670) 234-7859/234-5750.

Bids will be closed on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012 AT 5:00 PM

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers.

Vehicles bid form can be obtained from Bank of Guam through Counsel Robert T. Torres
Attorney at Law
Chalan Kiya
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

VEHICLE FOR SALE

2001 NISSAN FRONTIER SE

For more information, please contact Bank of Guam through its counsel, Robert T. Torres at Telephone Numbers (670) 234-7859/234-5750.

Bids will be closed on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2012 AT 5:00PM

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Carmelo keeps Knicks perfect with win over 76ers

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—For all the cracks made about New York's aging roster, those old-timers sure know how to win.

Carmelo Anthony scored 21 points and JR Smith had 17 to help keep the Knicks perfect in a 110-88 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday night.

Raymond Felton scored 16 points and Tyson Chandler had 14 to lead the Knicks to their first 3-0 start since the 1999-2000 season. The Knicks beat the Sixers 100-84 on Sunday in the opener of the home-and-home series.

"We're just playing good ball right now," Anthony said. "We really locked in what we need to lock in on."

Few teams are as locked in as the Knicks. They thumped Miami in the opener before routing the Sixers in consecutive games. Heck, they were even perfect from the free-throw line, a 19 of 19 night, the most attempts without a miss since 2006.

The Knicks busted the game open in the third quarter, stretching the lead to 21 points. They got a surprising third from 38-year-old Rasheed Wallace, who scored eight points and hit a couple of 3-pointers, including a 26-footer at the buzzer to end the quarter.

After a solid first, the Sixers fell apart, and got nothing going with their set offense. Jrue Holiday led them with 17 points.

Wallace was wooed out of retirement by coach Mike Woodson following two years off spent in quiet in North Carolina. He gave the Knicks a nice, unexpected boost in the quarter from long range. Several thousand Knicks fans came out to the Wells Fargo Center and they went wild when Wallace, a Philadelphia native, unleashed his 3-point attempts.

In his 5 minutes in the third, Wallace's eight points outscored every Sixers bench player overall except Nick Young. Wallace finished with 10 points and wore a button-down "Philla" shirt in the locker room.

"It's nice to be here, always," Wallace said. "I've never really left Philly, and I've been here a few times, attending Sixers games, since I last played. Everyone here has always shown me love, and I have for them."

Young led the way of cold-shooting Sixers, missing 11 of 15 attempts. Known as a shoot-first player, Young almost never looked for another option, and hoisted up misfire after misfire. One fan heckled him, "That's why you got a one-year deal, man!"

No, the Sixers aren't building around Young. But it's clear they need some help outside of Holiday. Dorell Wright had 14 points, and Thaddeus Young had 14 points and 10 rebounds. The game was well out of reach by the time they started putting up numbers.

AP

New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony (7) drives between Philadelphia 76ers' Thaddeus Young (21) and Dorell Wright (4) in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Nov. 5, 2012, in Philadelphia.

"Points aren't easy to come by and you have to be on the same page," center Spencer Hawes said.

Ronnie Brewer sparked the Knicks in the third, turning an eight-point lead into 18 after he nailed a couple of 3s. He finished with 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Heat 124, Suns 99

In Miami, LeBron James had 23 points and 11 rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored 22 points and Miami beat Phoenix.

Chris Bosh finished with 18 points and Ray Allen had 15 for the Heat, who are averaging 111.8 points in their first four games. Allen became the 24th player in NBA history to eclipse the 23,000-point mark when he made a free throw with 1:01 left in the third quarter.

Shannon Brown led Phoenix with 18 points off the bench, making five 3-pointers. Luis Scola had 15 points, Goran Dragic finished with 13 points and nine assists, and Marcin Gortat scored 12 for the Suns.

The Heat put the game away with a 23-6 run in the third, a spurt fueled by 10 points from James and five 3-pointers in a span of less than 5 minutes.

Timberwolves 107, Nets 96

In New York, rookie guard Alexey Shved and Chase Budinger led a furious rally from 22 points down, and Minnesota stunned Brooklyn.

Shved made the go-ahead basket with 2:35 remaining and had a pair of 3-pointers in the fourth quarter after going scoreless for the first three. The Timberwolves scored the final 11 points in an impressive rally on the second night of back-to-back games. Seemingly out of the game early in the second half, they overwhelmed the Nets in the fourth quarter with a brilliant effort from their bench.

Shved, a point guard from Russia, hit from in the lane, then Nikola Pekovic scored inside and Budinger made a 3-pointer with 38 seconds to go, making it 103-96 in front of a stunned crowd in the second game at the new Barclays Center.

Grizzlies 103, Jazz 94

In Memphis, Zach Randolph had 16 points and 18 rebounds, Marc Gasol added 22 points and Memphis capped a day of celebration by beating Utah.

Before the game, the Grizzlies introduced their new owners with NBA commissioner David Stern on hand.

Mike Conley added 16 points, Rudy Gay had 15 and Quincy Pondexter 14 for Memphis, which won its second straight this season after opening up with two games in California.

The Grizzlies also picked up where they left off last season by winning their 12th straight regular season game and extending their franchise record.

Gordon Hayward led Utah with 19 points, 13 in the first half. Mo Williams added 17 points, Paul Millsap and Derrick Favors each had 14.

Mavericks 114, Trail Blazers 91

In Dallas, O.J. Mayo scored 32 points, his second consecutive 30-point game at home, and Dallas used a fourth-quarter surge to beat Portland.

Mayo, one of a trio of Mavericks newcomers who scored in double figures, made six 3-pointers and capped his night with a running dunk with 1:18 left. He scored 30 in the home opener two nights earlier. Chris Kaman had 16 points, and Darren Collison had 14 points and 13 assists for the Mavericks.

LaMarcus Aldridge and Wesley Matthews had 20 points each for Portland. The Trail Blazers are coached by Terry Stotts, a Mavericks assistant the past four seasons under Rick Carlisle.

Spurs 101, Pacers 79

In San Antonio, Gary Neal scored 17 points and San Antonio set a franchise record for best start to a season with its fourth straight win.

Tim Duncan added 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Spurs (4-0). DeJuan Blair added 14 points, Stephen Jackson 12 and Danny Green 10.

Former Spurs guard George Hill led Indiana with 15 points. Paul George added 14 points and David West had 10.

San Antonio's reserves outscored Indiana's bench players 57-35.

The Spurs never trailed by less than 10 points in the second half. The Pacers shot just 35 percent from the field in the game.

Kings 94, Warriors 92

In Sacramento, DeMarcus Cousins scored 23 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, and the Sacramento Kings held off the Golden State Warriors 94-92 Monday night to avoid an 0-4 start.

Cousins outworked slow-footed Andrew Bogut and every other Warriors big man to help Sacramento score 16 straight points during the third quarter and bust open a tie game.

Bogut hardly looked to be at full strength. He had 12 points and three rebounds while playing almost 19 minutes as Golden State's new franchise center - and his surgically repaired left ankle - eases back into shape.

Klay Thompson had 22 points and David Lee added 20 points to bring the Warriors within a point in the final minute. But Thompson missed a potential tying jumper and Stephen Curry missed a 3-pointer as time expired to seal Golden State's first road loss this season.

Cavaliers 108, Clippers 101

In Los Angeles, rookie Dion Waiters hit seven 3-pointers and scored 28 points, helping the Cleveland Cavaliers stave off a fourth-quarter rally by the Los Angeles Clippers to win 108-101 on Monday night.

Kyrie Irving added 24 points, Tyler Zeller had 15 points and Anderson Varejao had 15 points and 15 rebounds as the Cavs snapped a two-game skid.

Waiters set career highs in points and 3-pointers in his fourth NBA game.

Blake Griffin scored 20 points, Jamal Crawford added 19 and Chris Paul had 17 for the Clippers, who lost their second straight after opening the season with two wins in a row.

Barea, Sloan get NBA's 1st 2 *flopping warnings*

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA issued flopping warnings to Minnesota's JJ Barea and Cleveland's Donald Sloan on Monday, the first two under a new policy designed to end the act.

Barea threw his upper body backward after contact while defending Sacramento's Jimmer Fredette in the fourth quarter on Friday. Sloan tumbled wildly to the court a few feet from contact after a pick set against him by Chicago's Nazr Mohammed on Friday.

"The extra on the end kind of made it bad," Sloan said before the Cavs' game against the Clippers in Los Angeles. "To be one of the first ones (warned) kind of (stinks)."

The NBA announced a new policy in preseason to stop the act of players dramatically overselling contact in hopes of tricking referees into calling fouls. League officials review plays and inform players if something they did falls under the league's definition of a flop, which is "any physical act that appears to have been intended to cause the referees to call a foul on another player."

"It's just a judgment call," Sloan said. "I'm sure they'll crack down on it."

The second offense comes with a $5,000 fine, followed by $10,000 for a third, $15,000 for a fourth and $30,000 for a fifth. Additional flops after that could lead to a suspension.

Barea said before the Timberwolves' game in Brooklyn that he hadn't heard yet from the league, but he drew two charging fouls in the game and assumed he was flagged for one of those. His coach, Rick Adelman, is concerned about the policy and its enforcement, wondering if the 6-foot Puerto Rican guard was targeted for his get-under-your-skin reputation.

"I've said it before, I think it's something that they can certainly look at, but I don't know how anybody, you know, a thousand miles away on TV can tell if somebody gets hit or not hit. I think anybody here, if somebody does that to you, you're going to flinch," Adelman said, swinging his arm upward toward reporters.

"And he got hit. The play that they're talking about, the guy hit him in the face and he got called for a foul. I don't understand how he can get a warning foul."

Robinson's 99-yard return leads Saints past Eagles

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints picked up a much-needed win.

For Michael Vick and the Philadelphia Eagles, more misery.

Brees threw two touchdown passes, extending his NFL record streak to 51 games, and Patrick Robinson returned an interception 99 yards for a score to lead the Saints to a 28-13 win over the reeling Eagles on Monday night.

New Orleans (3-5), which bounced back from a dismal 34-14 loss at Denver, also got a 22-yard touchdown run from Chris Ivory.

The Eagles (3-5) lost their fourth straight, which is sure to keep the heat on Vick and embattled coach Andy Reid. Vick threw a 77-yard touchdown pass to DeSean Jackson in the third quarter, but that was about the only highlight for the visiting team which saw Vick sacked seven times.

Not that they didn't have their chances. The Eagles had first-and-goal four times and managed only two field goals by Alex Henery. In fact, they were outscored in those situations, with Robinson going the other way for a touchdown just when it looked like Philadelphia was on the verge of scoring.

Rubbing salt in the wound, Philadelphia squandered a chance to get back in the game with a brilliant trick play on a kickoff return. Riley Cooper laid flat in the end zone, unseen by the Saints, then popped up to take a cross-field lateral from Brandon Boykin.

AP

New Orleans Saints running back Pierre Thomas (23) carries against Philadelphia Eagles outside linebacker Mychal Kendricks (95) during the second half of an NFL football game at Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans, Monday, Nov. 5, 2012.

Cooper streaked down the sideline for an apparent touchdown. Only one problem - Boykin's lateral was actually a forward pass by about a yard, ruining the play with a penalty. Cooper stood with his hands on his hips, in disbelief, as the officials brought it back.

Philadelphia finished with 447 yards - the eighth straight team to put up more than 400 yards on the Saints. That was already the longest streak of 400-yard games given up by a defense since at least 1950, and maybe in the history of the NFL, putting New Orleans on pace to shatter the record for most yards allowed in a season.

But New Orleans came through where it mattered most, giving up a season low in points. Their previous best was a 31-24 victory over San Diego.

Philadelphia's last gasp was a fourth-down pass that Vick threw away in the back of the end zone with 7 seconds left, apparently more concerned about avoiding another pick than tacking on a meaningless TD.

Brees kept his record touchdown streak going, hooking up with Marques Colston on a 1-yard scoring pass and Jimmy Graham from 6 yards out.

The Saints quarterback finished 21 of 27 for 239 yards, a big improvement on his 22-of-42 showing against the Broncos. Brees also got plenty of help from the running game, which came into the league ranked last in the league.

Ivory, Pierre Thomas and Mark Ingram combined for 136 yards, each breaking off double-digit gains.

The embattled Saints defense kept the heat on Vick and the beating made it tough for No. 7 to establish any rhythm. He finished 22 of 41 for 272 yards and really couldn't be blamed for Robinson's interception, which went off the hands of tight end Brent Celek.

Celek had a tough night. He also lost a fumble deep at the New Orleans 8 with just over 3 minutes remaining, essentially ending any hope of a Philadelphia comeback.

Ortiz hopes to spur Red Sox rebound next year

BOSTON (AP)—David Ortiz got what he wanted a lot easier than he ever expected.

Ortiz, the face of the Red Sox since helping Boston end an 86-year World Series drought in 2004, finalized a $26 million, two-year contract on Monday, a deal that could be worth up to $30 million if he avoids another significant Achilles tendon injury next year.

The soon-to-be 37-year old had expressed his preference for a two-year deal the past two seasons. The club decided that keeping him and agreeing to his desire was a good first move this offseason.

"I don't think there was any doubt," he said during a Fenway Park news conference. "They approached me this year and our negotiation this year was easier than ever. They know what they were looking for. There wasn't even ever a back and forth situation. It was pretty much: `This is it and let's agree with it.' They know the pieces they need to put together to be successful this year."

Ortiz gets a $1 million signing bonus payable on Jan. 15 and salaries of $14 million next season and $11 million in 2014.

His 2014 salary would increase to $15 million if he has 20 or fewer days on the disabled list next season caused by an Achilles tendon injury - such as the one that limited him to one game after July 16 this year. If he has 21-40 days on the DL next year caused by an Achilles injury, his 2014 salary would go up to $13 million. The 2014 salary would not escalate if he has 41 days or more on the DL next year caused by an Achilles injury.

"After the season we identified a lot of things we wanted to do this offseason," general manager Ben Cherington said. "The most important one was to get David signed. This is a very important first step to our offseason. David has been an incredible performer for the Red Sox for 10 years. What he's done on the field speaks for itself. He's also been an incredible leader of the team as well as one can possibly do that."

Sitting at a table with Cherington to his right, one couldn't miss the World Series rings that Ortiz was wearing from 2004 and 2007.

Now, he'd like to help the team build from a last-place finish and 69-93 record, Boston's poorest since 1966.

"My focus right now is to provide what this organization expects from me the next two years," he said. "I'm a person that likes to get prepared for a challenge. Ben talked to me during the season and told me and a couple of my teammates he wants to build an organization around us. It's very painful to see what we went through this season."

During the club's historic 2004 run, Big Papi had consecutive game-ending hits in extra innings of Games 4 and 5 of the AL championship series against the Yankees as the Red Sox became the first major league team to overcome a 0-3 deficit in a best-of-seven postseason series.

The eight-time All-Star has 343 homers for Boston, fifth on the team's career list, and has 1,088 RBIs.

"We looked at the body of work and the track record. He's been incredibly productive and durable throughout the course of his career," Cherington said. "He's been one of the more consistent and durable players in the game over a long span of time. That gave us the comfort to give him a two-year deal, which was important to David."

Ortiz, who will turn 37 on Nov. 18, is a career .285 hitter with 401 homers and 1,386 RBIs.

He was having another solid year, batting .318 with 23 homers and 60 RBIs before going down with the Achilles injury in mid-July. He played in just one game the rest of the season.

During an interview on NBC Sports Network in October, ex-Red Sox manager Bobby Valentine said Ortiz "decided not to play anymore" after Boston traded Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford and Josh Beckett to the Los Angeles Dodgers in a move predicated on dumping salary.

Ortiz downplayed the issue in the first question of the news conference.

"About the Bobby situation, I try to not add too much," he said. "You guys know it was something that made me feel uncomfortable. You guys know I've been here the last 10 years and know how I go about my business. The most important thing is you guys are face to face with every day, and you already know how important it is to be on the field and represent what I need to do."

He closed the answer with "It's time to turn the page and move on."

Asked whether he'd like to finish his career after this contract, the very personable Ortiz had a playful answer.

"The one thing I always keep in mind is when I'm full swinging and the ball isn't going anywhere, that's when its time to go," he said, smiling. "But I haven't gotten there yet."

"We're thrilled to keep him here. We want David to retire with the Red Sox," Cherington said. "We hope that's many years from now. Right now we're happy that he'll be sitting in the middle of our lineup next year."

Ortiz has played 10 seasons with the Red Sox after he was let go by the Minnesota Twins.

Cabrera selected top player by big leaguers

NEW YORK (AP)—Miguel Cabrera is waiting for the crown that was presented to him at the World Series to arrive at his home. He'll give it a prominent spot in his office.

"I'll show it to my friends, my family," the Detroit Tigers third baseman said Monday after adding another honor by beating out Pittsburgh center fielder Andrew McCutchen and Los Angeles Angels rookie Mike Trout for player of the year as voted on by their fellow major leaguers. "I think it's going to be something special for my kids. ... It's going to be a good story for my grandkids."

Cabrera, the first Triple Crown winner in the big leagues since 1967, hit .330 with 44 homers and 139 RBIs for the AL champion Tigers. The slugger was given an actual crown by Major League Baseball during the World Series in honor of his achievement.

Detroit was swept by San Francisco in the World Series. Cabrera hit .231 with three RBIs and ended the Series by taking a called third strike.

"It's really disappointing because we didn't want to finish like we finished," he said. "It was very hard to accept how we lost."

But winning the Players Choice Award was special because the voters were his big league peers.

"It makes you feel proud and makes you feel like you've got to work harder, you've got to work to get better," the 29-year-old Cabrera said. "You've got to get better every year."

Retiring Atlanta third baseman Chipper Jones was voted Marvin Miller man of the year for excellence on and off the field over finalists Paul Konerko of the Chicago White Sox and Michael Young of Texas in Players Choice voting announced Monday.

Other awards went to Cabrera (AL outstanding player), McCutchen (NL outstanding player), Tampa Bay's David Price (AL outstanding pitcher) and New York Mets knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (NL outstanding pitcher). Trout and Cincinnati third baseman Todd Frazier were voted the outstanding rookies, and Adam Dunn of the Chicago White Sox and San Francisco catcher Buster Posey were chosen comeback players of the year.

Voting took place in September.

Saipan bodybuilders invited to Guam tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Guam National Physique Committee is inviting Saipan to compete in the Michelob Ultra 2012 Guam National Bodybuilding & Fitness Championships and International Invitational set for this Saturday at the Leo Palace Resort in Chalan Pago, Guam.

According to the organizer, the competition is also open to Japan, Korea, Philippines, and the outer islands, particularly Palau, which has some potential competitors that have expressed interest in participating; other regions in Asia may also field contestants.

The event started in the 1980s and has been put on for over 20 years and as an added attractiom this year, International Federation of Body Builders (IFBB) professional Hide Yamagishi of Japan will be featured as a guest poser. Yamagishi will also be holding a special seminar at Leo Palace this Friday at 10am.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
International Federation of Body Builders (IFBB) professional Hide Yamagishi of Japan will be featured as a guest poser in this weekend's Michelob Ultra 2012 Guam National Bodybuilding & Fitness Championships and International Invitational.

Admission into his tutorial costs $50 per person and is open to all fitness enthusiasts. Tickets to witness the competition cost $25 and are available at all Paradise Fitness locations (Guam). Tickets are non-refundable

In addition to the GNPC and Leo Palace, Paradise Fitness, the International Sports Center, KUAM Channel 8 and TV 11, Isla 63, Fiji Water, Tony Morrison Weight loss & Nutrition Program, i94FM-Champion Radio, Guambodybuilding.com, and Urban Individuals Dance Crew are sponsoring the event.

GNPC is a non-profit organization with a mission to produce various sporting events for the Guam community and promote general fitness throughout the Pacific.

Contact Maryann Pangelinan at 671-929-0963 or email maryann_pangelinan@hotmail.com for more information.

Notably, although born on Guam, Pangelinan is originally from Saipan. Her goal is to have both CNMI and Guam athletes compete at the next level in fitness events.

Fantasic Baby! leads SEDA champions list

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

SOS Bar & Grill's Fantasic Baby!, Bammy's Restaurant & Bar's DJ Fish, and Jonny's Bar & Grill's Kyodai were named division champions in the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's 2012 Summer/Fall Bud Light Open Dart League after the completion of games last week.

Fantastic Baby! held off Oceanside Bar & Grill's Destroyers (125-112), 9-8, last Wednesday to finish on top of the Masters division with its 151-87 slate.

Fifteen games back in second place came VWF Post 3457's Maharot Crew (136-102), who trampled Es'y Kitchen's Diamond Force (124-114), 13-4, at home and edged Joe's Steakhouse's Dart Seekers (135-103) in the final standings.

The Dart Seekers wrestled out an 11-4 home win over Sands' Juvy Especialist (71-167), but came up a dollar short, while SOS's The Joker left on a high note in the form of a 14-3 rout of sister team Mixblood Rookies (79-159) to place fourth.

Season notables include a 170-high in by Fantasic Baby!'s Joshua Wodson and a 155-high out by Maharot Crew's Julian Camacho.

In the B Fanihi, DJ Fish reigned supreme, following a 11-4 road win over VFW's Naughty Boyz (108-102). DJ Fish ended the league with a 137-73 record for a stout 19-game winning margin.

Runner-up IT&E Na'Gupu (118-92) of Naked Fish Bar & Grill went into Oceanside and knocked off the Shooters (81-129), 11-4, to finish ahead of Joe's Oneshot (115-95),which stumbled at the finish line against Jonny's Rehab (80-130), 7-8.

Es'y's Kitchen Darters (114-96) won via forfeit against sister team Taya Guaha (80-130), and jumped into the fourth spot.

Notables include a 160-high in by Naughty Boyz' John Cabrera and a 121-high out by Oneshot's Scott Guerrero.

In the B Flame Tree, Kyodai closed out with a dozen-game lead after downing VFW's Dutty Gunz (87-123), 11-4.

Joe's Real Deal (132-78) settled for second fiddle despite making it past its sister team Dart K'nytes (88-122) in a home draw, 8-7, while Naked Fish's Team Exotic (125-85) came in third place though it absorbed a 6-9 upset at home to Bammy's ToK'Ka Hao (96-114).

Bammy's Lilapuching (108-102) finished fourth, but rode off with a strong 12-3 home win over Sands' Juvy Refalauans (60-150).

Notables include a 152-high in by Kyodai's Tony Tomokane and a 155-high out by Juvy Refalauans' Polly Omechelang.

Final standings of other divisions will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Thursday edition.

HI-5

From Page 28

dueling Proa in the other Final Four pairing.

Hi-5 eliminated the Junior Nationals after getting off to a good start, as the former sprung out to an early 22-12 lead off the 10 points of Carl Aldan.

The Junior Nationals then buttoned up on defense in the second frame and pulled to within a possession at halftime, 25-28.

Hi-5 took a blow during the break and pulled away again, 46-35, as Mike Ariaga delivered 8 points.

The shorthanded Junior Nationals Girls were without the luxury of even one substitute, but got on their horse at crunch time anyway and postured a nice comeback. However, Hi-5's depth proved to be too much in the end, as its dirty dozen managed to withstand the 17-point dual effort of Glorily Williams and Madeline Alegre to keep the win.

Ariaga led Hi-5 with his 14 markers, while Rachel Abrams turned in a game-high 15 points on the short end.

Rollers 1 50, LD Prime 49

In the U20 game last Monday, the Rollers 1 finished its regular season campaign on a winning note after edging LD Prime.

The Rollers 1 earned a 4-5 record for fourth place in the 10-team field, while LD Prime had a 3-6 slate and has to wait for the results of the remaining games to determine its standing.

The U20 schedule lists a matchup between second place Marianas Resort/Proa (7-1) and the Chalan Kanoa Saints (2-6), however the latter have not appeared in their last four games. Also scheduled are the Kagman (3-5) versus Oleai Ol'Aces (3-4) tiff and the make-up game between the Ol'Aces and Hi-5 (3-5).

The defending champions Sonics (9-0) are done for the regular season and are undoubtedly the team to beat in the playoffs, while third placer Rollers 2 (7-2) and the Agape Torchbearers (0-9) complete the field.

Both teams started slow in their final game with LD Prime taking only an 11-9 lead after the first 10 minutes of action before stretching the margin to 7 at the half, 30-23.

Lawrence Rollon led LD Prime with his 11 points, while Daryl Suarez and Ralph Francisco teamed up for a baker's dozen for the Rollers 1 in the first two frames.

The Rollers 1 then made some key adjustments at intermission and turned the table on its rivals in the third quarter, 38-35. John Darag carried the torch for the Rollers 1 with his 6 points and the team buried five free throws in the third-quarter rally.

It was better late than never for Darag, who turned it on late in the game with 8 more markers after being held scoreless in the first half. He sunk a pair of pressured free throws to secure the victory and finished with a team-high 14 points. Rollon topped the box score with his 18.

U16

Hi-5 61 – Arciaga 14, Aldan 10, Cruz 9, Hernandez 8, A. Francisco 6, Ocaya 4, Diyco 2, Pangelinan 2, Cristobal 2, Borromeo 2.

CNMI Junior Girls Nationals 56 – Abrams 15, Alegre 14, Williams 12, Pena 9, Samson 6.

Scoring by quarters: 22-12, 28-25, 46-35, 61-56.

U20

Rollers 1 50 – Darag 14, R. Francisco 10, Suarez 8, Caro 4, Deleon Guerrero 4, Lansang 4, Lee 4, Vertudez 2.

LD Prime 49 – Rollon 18, Quemado 9, Esteves 6, Ngeskebei 6, Aldan 4, Espinosa 4, Gunnacao 1, Lapuz 1 .

Scoring by quarters: 9-11, 23-30, 38-35, 50-49.

TAN HOLDINGS

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mixed doubles. The juniors long court division is divided into four age groups— U10, U12, U15, and U18—while the adults singles, doubles, and mixed doubles will have competitions in the 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, and 40-and-above divisions. In the short court, only U10 players are allowed to join.

About 100 Saipan players are expected to participate in the annual tournament, which will also lure several Guam netters.

"It's wonderful to welcome our friends from off island to come and play two weekends of tennis with our CNMI players. This tennis event is open to all ages and skill levels, and we love watching new friendships form between the players. We have something special planned this year and the only way to find out is to register and get your ticket to the awards banquet," said tournament chair Lydia Tan in an email forwarded to *Saipan Tribune*.

"It's going to be an exciting year again and I encourage all players in the CNMI to register and play," added tournament vice chair Bobby Cruz, who played in the men's 5.0 singles last year and bowed to Todd Montgomery.

Besides Montgomery, other singles champions last year were Thea Minor (women's 5.0 and men's U18), Jake Lee (men's 4.0), Moris Villanueva (men's 3.0 and boys U15), Alina Ishikawa (women's 3.0), Mikayla Lopez (girls U15), Michael Ren and Carol Lee (U12), and Cole Chambers, and Tania Tan (U10).

Meanwhile, this year's Tennis Classic is supported by PTC, Gatorade, TakeCare, Quality Distributors, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, ASC Trust Corporation, Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Hertz, AMS Typhoon Shutters, American Memorial Park, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Kanoa Resort, First Hawaiian Bank, Kwong Hwa Shopping, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Miller Lite, and Pepsi.

AUSTRALIA

From Page 28

Association agreed that the two Oceania nations may dominate the Games, but he sees Australia and New Zealand's presence as a challenge to CNMI athletes and other representatives of small PGA members.

"If Australia and New Zealand get to compete in the Pacific Games, our athletes have to push harder and play better to keep up with the rest of the field," Gabriel White said.

The NMIVA official added that although New Zealand and Australia may send their B and C teams in the Pacific Games, these squads are still high-level groups.

Meanwhile, Michael White said that PGA members differed the proposal to change the Mini Games to the Pacific Youth Games.

"Members are not considering having the Pacific Youth Games in the near future," the NMASA head said.

MP UNITED

From Page 28

in Division 1, Tan Holdings blanked Wild Bill's.

Red and yellow cards were everywhere with six Wild Bill's players and two from Tan Holdings being cautioned.

On offense, Wai Wo Lee was steady for Tan Holdings and canned a pair of goals. Li Guang Lin logged the other goal for the winning team.

With players from the opposing teams getting into each other's nerves right at the get-go, making it to the scoring position was a tough task and it took Tan Holdings almost the entire first half to break the ice with Lee posting his first goal in the 42nd minute.

Lee then got his second one in the 87th minute, while Lin earned one midway in the second half, giving Tan Holdings a 3-1-1 record and the solo lead in Division 1.

Wild Bill's absorbed its first loss and fell to a tie for third place with Korean Football Association (1-1-1).

Inter Godfather's 2, Paire 0

Inter Godfather's moved up from third to second place after defeating Paire in the other Division 1 match.

Inter now has a 2-1-2 slate after drawing one goal each from Ryu Tanzawa and Masatoshi Otsuka. Tanzawa put Inter in the scoreboard in the 29th minute and they maintained the 1-0 halftime lead as Paire (1-0-3) struggled to find its form in the first 45 minutes of play.

The breaks were still not on Paire's side in the second half, while Otsuka found a way to elude his defenders and scored in the 70th minute to help Inter recover from a 1-2 loss to Tan Holdings in Week 6.

Meanwhile, the last game in Week 7 of the M-League will be played tonight with Matansa hoping to bounce back when it faces Shirley's FC (1-0-4).

5th Annual SCC Golf Tournament

Junior golfer Sean Lee, second left, accepts his closest to the pin prize from Delta Airlines' Esther Sound, right during the awards ceremony for the 5th Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament held on Oct. 27 at Coral Ocean Point. Also in the photo are Chamber's Janice Tenorio, third left, and Doug Brennan, left.

Manny Mangarero, second left and Tars Olopai, right, pose for a photo with their low gross runner-up prize.

PHOTOS BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Jung Eun Teack, second left and Frank Castro, right, won runner-up honors in the men's low net category.

Frederico Flores, third left, and Tom McKenzie, right, accept the fourth prize in the low gross category.

Joe Saurez, left, and Frank Duenas, right, accept the fifth prize in the men's low net category.

J.J. Atalig, second left, and Joey Dela Cruz, right, get the third prize in the men's low net category.

Fred Camacho, center, accepts the fourth prize he and Rick Kautz, not pictured, won in the men's low net category.

Ned Norita, left, and Carl Hocog, right, smile for the camera after accepting the sixth prize in the men's low net category.

Lee Geun Ju, center, accepts the third prize he and Kim Gi Yeong, not pictured, won in the low gross category.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Hi-5 clinches semis berth

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Hi-5 outclassed the CNMI Junior Girls National Team, 61-56, at the start of the playoff round of the U16 division in the Rotary Club of Saipan's 21st Annual Youth Basketball League last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hi-5 is now in the semifinals, joining the Rollers 2, which was gifted free passage into the next round, thanks to yet another no-show by winless D-South (0-5). The Rollers 1 and Matson Consulting/Proa made it to the Final Four earlier after finishing in the Top 2 in the regular season.

The U16 semis round will be played this Saturday with the top-ranked Rollers 1 facing sister team Rollers 2 and Hi-5

See HI-5 on Page 26

Hi-5's Art Borromeo lofts a floater against two CNMI Junior Girls National Team members during their U16 playoff game in the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.
WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Tan Holdings Tennis Classic starts next week

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Local tennis action will resume next week with the staging of the 4th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic.

The tournament, which will be Saipan's first in six months, as local players had been to regional events in June and August, will be played in two weeks at five different venues. The first week of the Tennis Classic will run from Nov. 15 to 18, while the second and final week will take place from Nov. 21 and 23 to 25. The American Memorial Park tennis courts will be the event's headquarters, while other games will be played at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Pacific Islands Club.

Players competing in the juniors long court's singles and doubles and adults singles will see action in Week 1, while Week 2 will feature games in the juniors short court's singles and doubles and adults doubles and

See TAN HOLDINGS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Isabel Heras gets ready to serve during a girls U12 game in last year's Tan Holdings Tennis Classic at the American Memorial Park tennis court.

MP United maintains flawless record

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United kept its immaculate record in the M-League after winning its Weeks 6 and 7 matches at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The Norman del Rosario-coached MP United won the battle of undefeated squads in Division 2, downing erstwhile leader Matansa, 4-2, last Wednesday. Then last Sunday, MP United shut out Kanoa Resort FC, 2-0, to improve to an impressive 5-0-0 record and become the only team in the entire league with an undefeated slate.

Jehn Joyner led MP United's victory over Matansa (4-0-1) after drilling twin goals. Joe Miller and Brad Ruszala nailed the other two goals. Joyner opened MP United's scoring with a goal in the 14th minute and five minutes later Miller made it a 2-0 lead.

Matansa then cut the deficit to one at the break, 1-2, as Ho Jin Woo made it to the scoreboard, and later scored anew on a penalty kick to tie the match in the 61st minute. Joyner's second goal broke the deadlock at the 76th minute and Ruszala made the insurance eight minutes before the buzzer sounded.

Against Kanoa, MP United earned back-to-back goals in a span of two minutes to gain cushion in the third game of the week.

Miller found the back of the net in the 35th minute and two minutes later, it was Jireh Yobech's turn to score, giving MP United a 2-0 halftime lead. Goals remained elusive for Kanoa in the second half, dropping the team to a dismal 0-0-5 record.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United's Jason Warren makes a throw-in during the second half of their game against Kanoa Resort FC in the Division 2 of the M-League last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

DIVISION 1
Tan Holdings 3, Wild Bill's 0

In a highly physical first game

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Australia, NZ considered for Pacific Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Pacific Games Association is considering the entry of Oceania powerhouse Australia and New Zealand to the future Pacific Games.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White announced during the NMASA meeting that PGA members that attended the general assembly in Wallis & Futuna last month agreed on the proposed inclusion of New Zealand and Australia to the Pacific Games.

The executive board of the Pacific Games Council made the proposal to give more prestige and marketing value to the Games and PGA members agreed to start exploratory talks on New Zealand and Australia's inclusion to the quadrennial event.

Jeff Race, president of the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association, was not amenable to the recommendation, as this will only lessen the small nations' chances of winning with Australia and New Zealand both having world championship and Olympic-caliber athletes.

Gabriel White of the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball

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